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NIAGARA COLLEGE of Applied Arts and Technology WELLAND CAMPUS LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE

Inquest ordered in teens' accidental deaths

By LAURA T. RICCIUTO
Staff Writer

An inquest has been ordered in the accidental deaths of two Grade 9 students who died at a Welland manufacturing plant while participating in Take Our Kids to Work Day on Nov. 1.

Coroner James Young announced the inquest on Tuesday at 10 a.m., saying it will focus on safety of students involved in Take Our Kids to Work Day.

The fatal accident claimed the lives of Rob Fulbrook and Amanda Peat, both 14, when the six-wheeled all-terrain utility vehicle driven by the teens slammed into a parked tractor trailer at the John Deere Welland Works plant at 619 Canalbank St.

It has not yet been released as to which teen was driving.

Both teens were laid to rest on Monday with school memorial services held on Tuesday.

Young mentioned he delayed releasing the notice of an inquest until funeral services had been completed out of respect for the families' mourning.

The Central Traffic Unit of the Niagara Regional Police (NRP) Service is continuing its investigation. At time of print more than 30 witnesses have been interviewed and at least another 10 remain, a police spokesperson said.

It was reported by NRP that the two were driving the two-seater Gator alone at the time of the accident. The Gator has a maximum speed of 30 kilometres an hour and can be carried in the back of a full-sized pick-up truck.

The police are still investigating who gave, and if the children received, consent to drive.

Investigators at the Center for Forensic Science in Toronto are examining the six-wheeled Gator tractor involved in the collision. They are conducting a mechanical fitness test on the vehicle. The Central Traffic Unit will release conclusions from their findings once the investigation is "totally complete."

Rob's father, Peter, has been employed at the John Deere plant since 1981 and works in the loading department.

There were more than 30 high school students from the Welland area visiting the plant as part of the nationwide program.

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The locker of student Rob Fulbrook is covered with messages by fellow students at E.L. Crossley Secondary School in Pelham.

Photo by Laura T. Ricciuto

Students hit auction block for United Way

Dave Muri encourages the crowd as he is auctioned off for United Way at After Hours on Nov. 1.

Photo by Dan D'Amico

By DAN D'AMICO
Staff Writer

Going once, going twice . . . sold to the man at the back.

That was the theme in the After Hours pub that hosted the bachelor/bachelorette auction for the United Way on Nov. 1.

All eyes in the full pub were on the stage as each of the participants walked under the spotlight and waited for the bids to pour in.

Chris Neilson, master of ceremonies, says he was called to do the event at the last second as he was walking by the stage. "Originally I was supposed to be one of the guys up there," says the 27-year-old Human Relations program second-year student.

Dave Muri, 20, of the Educational Resources and Special Needs program, says he just walked through the door and his friends wanted him to go up on stage.

"It was a bet," he says, adding, "They bet I couldn't go up there, but I did."

Muri was sold for $14 to his group of friends who, he says, own him now.

In order for the participants to sell themselves, they had to come up with creative ideas. Some danced to the music; one student waved money in the air, another student made a poem for the women in the crowd and another bachelor went so far as to take his clothes off after each high bid.

Jon Allen, a first-year Police Foundations program student, who went for $28 and didn't need to entice the crowd, says he entered the event because he likes charity.

He says he has helped out with the United Way clothing drive and was scared he was only going to raise $2 in the auction.

However, the day's biggest winner, Dan Lizzotti of the Computer Programming program, says he entered the event because his friend signed him up. When it came to the sale of himself, he says he "was thinking $1.50."

Continued on Page 2

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In The Community

School learning experience turns tragic

Continued from page 1

Take Our Kids to Work is a job-shadowing program that offers Grade 9 students the opportunity to accompany their parents while at work. The program is geared to prepare students for the transition from classroom to workplace.

It is estimated that more than 75,000 workplaces hosted some 400,000 Grade 9 students across Canada, in the seventh annual Take Our Kids to Work Day.

Friends and fellow students of the victims are expressing their grief by visiting the teens' lockers and desks and sending heartfelt wishes to the deceased through letters and cards.

Rob, who attended E.L. Crossley Secondary School in Pelham, is survived by his mother Sherri, father Peter, and two younger sisters, Christina, 12, and Lisa, 10.

'The time has come to remember the friends and family we have lost in this tragedy, and to reflect upon our own lives and how beautiful but fleeting they can be.'
— Brian Baty

At E.L. Crossley, many students have placed flowers, letters and cards addressed to "Robbie." His locker on the third floor has been plastered with colourful handwritten notes, poems, cards and photos. Dozens of flowers, beginning to wilt but not ready to be removed, remain below the sympathy notes.

"They had a sense of caring about each other that has been inspirational," said Brian Baty, E.L. Crossley principal, adding, "It became a very quiet place for them to be pensive and be together in terms of their mourning."

"We will always remember you," wrote one student in magic marker. Another wrote, "It was great knowing you. You had a lifetime ahead of you."

Other notes offered direct messages: "When I look at the heavens I'll remember everything . . . Polish the stars and say Hi to the big Kahoona for me."

An anonymous writer expressed these words in a typed poem: "The world has turned and left me here, just as I was before you appeared. And in your place an empty space has filled the void behind my face."

The students of E.L. Crossley were notified by an announcement over the school public address system following the singing of the national anthem on Nov. 2.

Baty has assured students, "In a situation like this, you are not alone. We are all touched by this event and will all have issues we will have to work out." He concluded his announcement by telling students, "The time has come to remember the friends and family we have lost in this tragedy, and to reflect upon our own lives and how beautiful but fleeting they can be."

Two 17-year-old E.L. Crossley students from Fonthill expressed the general reaction about the death.

"It was horrible. It's a really bad tragedy. I don't have words to describe it," said Melanna Buckoic.

Jennifer Dykstra, said, "It was an awful thing to happen."

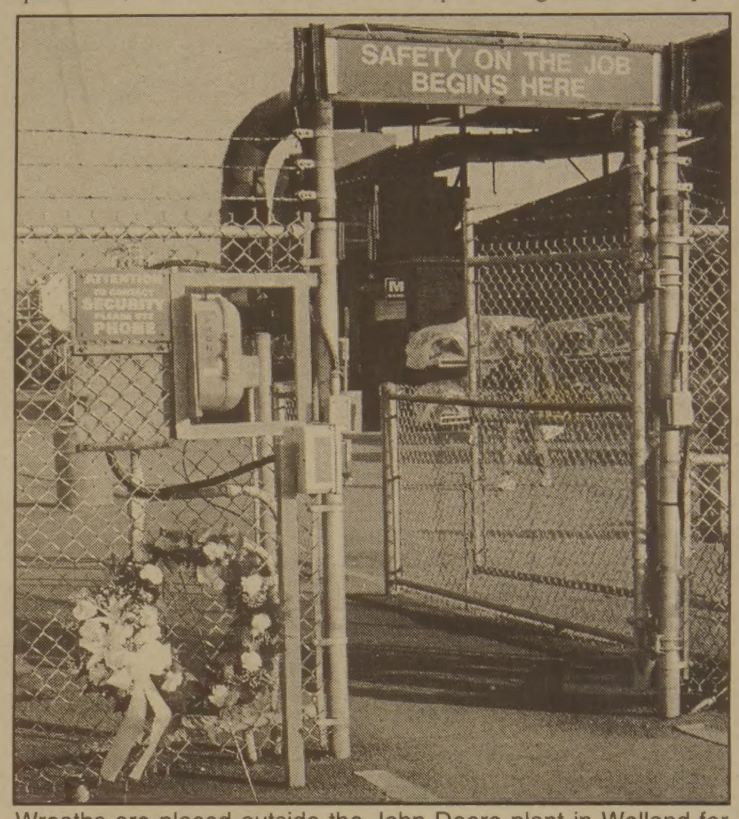
"Students were very, very, very respectful. Everyone worked in a quiet tone," said Brenda Jones, vice-principal of E.L. Crossley, recalling the first day students were aware of the accident.

Jones said one student suggested that an engraved plate be placed on Rob's locker in memoriam, "so he'll always be remembered."

Amanda was a student at Niagara District Secondary School in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Her mother Peggy, father Steve, younger sister Jessica and five-year-old brother Thomas survive the teen.

She is remembered by those close to her for her love of sports and specializing in drama. In part of the school's Remembrance Day celebrations, friends of Amanda's are planning to hold a memorial in her honour.



Wreaths are placed outside the John Deere plant in Welland for the two students who died there on Nov. 1 during the annual Take Our Kids to Work Day.

Photo by Laura T. Ricciuto

A memorial scholarship is being set up in honour of Rob at E.L. Crossley and Niagara District is setting up an award in Amanda's name. Donations are being accepted at both schools.

"It shocked the whole town," said Welland resident Tina Fini, adding, "I think it could have been prevented."

The 21-year-old recalls a Grade 7 class trip when she visited the John Deere plant. "They did not let us touch a thing. They were so cautious and protective of us."

Following the accident, John Deere International sent a press release to employees worldwide telling them of the tragedy.

'It shocked the whole town. I think it could have been prevented.'
— Tina Fini

It stated: "This tragedy must serve to reaffirm our uncompromising commitment to safety at all John Deere facilities. This accident shall be thoroughly investigated to ensure no similar tragedy occurs in the future."

A media release from the NRP states, "The management and staff of John Deere have been incredibly helpful to investigators from the NRP Service, assisting them in any way possible."

Correction

In Volume 31, Issue 3 of the *Niagara News* published Oct. 27, incorrect information appeared concerning the proper names and proper academic length of a number of programs in an interview with Bonnie Rose, vice-president academic, on page 3.

The International Business Management (Post-graduate) program is one year.

There are two new School of Business post-secondary level programs, a three-year Business Administration — International Business and a two-year Business — International Business.

The Business Administration — Professional Golf Management (Co-op) program is three years. It started in October at the Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake. It is not, however, the only golf program in Ontario.

The Winery and Viticulture Technician program is two years, also at the Glendale campus. Rose said the college is "exploring ways" graduates could articulate with universities.

The Photonics (Laser) Engineering Technician program will be two years long starting next September at the Welland campus. It will be the first program in photonics at an Ontario college. It shares a common first year with the Photonics (Laser) Engineering Technology program, a new three-year offering.

It is the policy of Niagara News to correct errors of fact.

Auctioning bods for charity

Continued from page 1

"I wanted to see how much I would get," he says when asked why he entered the event. "It's kind of an ego boost."

The organizers for the event were Lisa Lefebvre, 21, Katie Parrent, 19, and Christie Cairns, 20, all second-year Human Relations program students. They organized the event as part of their course and they did "the entire thing themselves," says Lefebvre, adding she took about a month to organize the event. To get the participants, they asked people, put up fliers and relied on word of mouth.

"Thanks to everyone who participated, helping us out with the fund-raiser. Thanks to all the local organizations who donated," says Lefebvre.

The sponsors for this year's auction were the Student Administrative Council, Pizza Hut, Conradi's Service Station and Madison Ave. Billiard Lounge.

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SAC

Comedy helps in Food for Friends project

By HEIDI MORRISON
Staff Writer

The Student Administrative Council (SAC) is getting ready to kick off the Food for Friends campaign at the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls.

'Food for Friends is probably, to me, one of the better charities SAC supports.'
— Glenn Murray

GLENN MURRAY

It starts with a Comedy Night on Nov. 13. Students are asked to bring non-perishable food items to the event.

"We're making it a fund-raiser," said Glenn Murray, Maid of the Mist campus SAC president. "Every food item they bring, they get one ticket. The tickets are entered in raffles to win prizes."

The prizes include items like watches and free dinners.

The Food for Friends campaign week will begin on Nov. 21. There will be boxes throughout all three campuses for students to donate food and toiletry items. As with Comedy Night, each donation will get the donor a ticket for the raffles.

Because the Maid of the Mist campus is about hospitality, Murray says, "We're going to play it up and do everything bad, like have bad service and things like that. It should be a lot of fun."

There will be comedians from Yuk Yuk's, Terry McGurrin and Wade McElwain, and SAC will be doing "everything," he says.

"Food for Friends is probably, to me, one of the better charities SAC supports."

The Comedy Night will be held in the Kerrio Room at the Maid of the Mist campus.

For more information on the event, contact Jeremy Walls, vice-president of internal affairs, at 988-4314, extension 3645.

Students string Christmas lights to assist others

By HEIDI MORRISON
Staff Writer

Students will be Santa's elves this year bringing Christmas cheer to town by helping those who need a hand.

The Student Administrative Council (SAC) from the Maid of the Mist campus in Niagara Falls is organizing a Christmas light-decorating event to assist people unable to put up the lights themselves.

"SAC is planning to do this in conjunction with the Festival of Lights," says Glenn Murray, SAC president at the Maid of the Mist campus. The festival is an annual event in Niagara Falls that encourages residents to decorate and light their homes as part of a winter-long event.

'SAC is planning to do this in conjunction with the Festival of Lights.'
— Glenn Murray

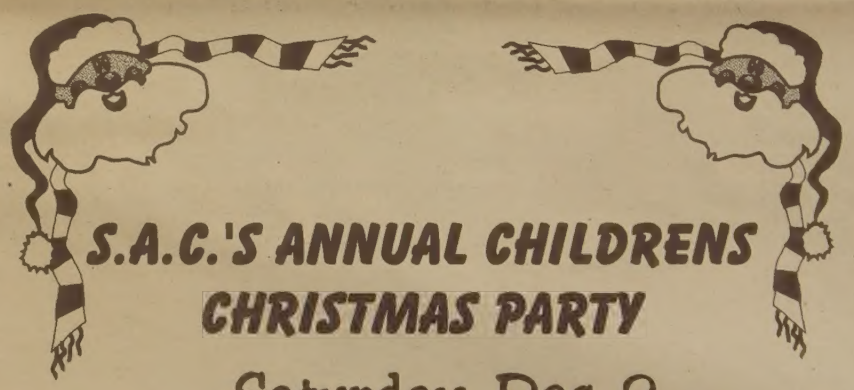
SAC is looking for student volunteers to put up the Christmas lights for senior citizens in the area.

"The decorating will begin around Nov. 18 and will run over the weekends until the Christmas break," he says.

The committee for the Festival of Lights will be advertising the event for SAC.

SAC will be providing the tools needed, while the owners of the homes being decorated will supply the lights.

Any students wishing to volunteer for the event should contact Jeremy Walls at the Maid of the Mist campus at 988-4314, extension 3645.



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LIFE ON THE STREET

Humanity 'may just be kind-hearted after all'

By SCOTT THOMSON
Staff Writer
Column

It's pretty obvious to those whom I choose to let know me, I really don't think too highly of this world.

It's no longer teenage angst but more of a realization of the fact I was right all along.

In my eyes, the world is tainted. With its political and its religious institutions, I'm really amazed we're even allowed to think for ourselves anymore. To me, we, the common people, get lost in the fold and usually go down without a fight.

Even the precious few who do stand up usually get laughed at or gravely misunderstood (Jello Biafra).

I know I was wrong about one thing. Humanity as a whole may just be kind-hearted after all.

Going into my night on the streets I thought humans were only interested in one thing: themselves. I thought in our overly modern world everyone was far too concerned with his or her own little world to reach out and touch someone's life. Hell, I knew it was true for myself even.

I was no better. If I didn't know you or recognize you, I would usually turn the other cheek and walk away without a second thought.

I'll swear on whatever you want me to that I've changed, thanks to the few who helped me that night in St. Catharines.

Part of Bill Stephenson's and my assignment was to panhandle so we could get food money. I don't usually like asking others for handouts. If I can't get it myself, I don't have it. For obvious reasons, that night things had to be different.

We sat in front of the Pizza Pizza on St. Paul Street with our hand extended and a look of sheer desperation on our faces. There have been a few times when I'd throw a dime or two to a "bum," but I didn't think many people did. I was wrong about that too.

We sat there for only about an hour or two and we had already made about $30. The funny thing was, we made minimum wage in no more than 10 minutes.

The people would pass us and throw loonies as if they were pennies, and toonies as if they were quarters.

Certain people would give us bills and talk to us for a while. Those were the people I really appreciated. They treated me as if I was human and not a member of the vagabond class.

I almost forgot the fact I had no place to sleep. With them, I had had peace, and let us not forget about the food money.

Nothing will top the guy who actually bought us a slice of pizza. We didn't even ask him for money. He was on the other side of the street and he still had the heart to feed us.

It was better than any bill ever could be. I respect that man as a true human being. He had the nobility and the compassion to spend a few minutes buying us food.

That's what we wanted. To be treated as humans may have been the nicest gift of all.

The homeless are there for a reason.

Did you ever stop to think they drink to keep a little bit warmer on those colds nights?

As mortals, we need those indulgences to keep us pleasant.

That pizza or the bottle of whiskey in the hand of a street person might be the thing that keeps that person going.

Unfortunately, not everybody sees it that way.

I did encounter one man who had the "class" to look me in the eyes and lock his car doors as we passed in the early evening.

He was not too far removed from his teenage years and he had no passengers in his black pickup truck.

It wasn't fear on his face, for it was disgust written across his brow.

There really is no nice way to put this. Sorry: for the vulgarity, but F*** YOU.

Open your eyes to the real problem in the world, ignorance.

Part two: Stranded on the Streets

By BILL STEPHENSON
Staff Writer

He left.

I didn't know what to think.

I told him to do what's best for him, but I had to stay. I had to finish what I had started. I wasn't going to leave until I knew I couldn't take it anymore. I look at him differently now. He's still my friend, but now I think I know who he really is.

It was 6 p.m. or 7 p.m. and I was sitting alone at One St. Paul. The wind was walking by me asking me to follow it, but I had nowhere to go and nothing to do. Without Scott I became bored and delirious. I was laughing at things. Trying to feel comforted, I talked to whoever would give me a chance. I was lonely. I imagined that my mom and dad saw me sitting here on the ground. I took my shoes off because my feet hurt and I noticed the blood on the bottom of my socks. I looked away because this couldn't be happening. I went into a coffee shop bathroom and changed into my long johns. As I left I remembered that I was supposed to clean my feet, but I just kept walking. I sat, and this is what I wrote:

"My Dreams

A slippery step, inviting me, pulling at my pant leg, asking me to fall, to look away, while I join them below, my bones tell me to go but my soul says no, and you can quote me, grab the world by the ear so they can hear words, so they can accept what is what they make, I assume everyday people feel this way, when they can't break a smile, and when all is dissolving, the planet is a capsule, time release to torture me, slowly, slowly we all learn but too late? Still all innate? Did we just begin? Well my skin is wearing thin and my marrow hates me, I don't think God made me, or did he? So I can suffer and teach another what is sympathy, spare a penny? Or a smile? Shake my dirty hand and marry me, insanely ever after, I stand and walk slow, towards where? I don't know."

My first and only bad experience with another person came that night. I had met Dave, a guy who was a resident at the Sally Ann. We had been talking for about 30 minutes when I saw a man walking by. The man and I made eye contact. I asked, "What's up?"

He exploded into a fit of rage, swearing at me, saying he should punch me. I didn't know what to do. I explained to him that I meant no offence, but it was too late. He had snapped. I was getting nervous and looked around for a rock or something to defend myself. There was nothing.

Dave tried to calm the guy down. It didn't work. Psycho man took off his jacket and threw it down the street. He then slapped Dave across the face so hard Dave's glasses flew off his face and hit the ground. People I had met earlier that night were across the street yelling at this guy to leave us alone. The guy then picked up his jacket and jumped into the nearest cab and drove away.

Dave was shocked. We talked for a bit after that, but he was really upset. He said he had to go do something and left me.

Another man approached me. This one didn't want to hurt me. He just was wondering if I could possibly find him any crack. I said no. He left.

Later on, after hours of nothingness, of sitting and talking to passersby, I saw Scott. He had come back to check in on me. I told him I was OK. He wanted me to come back with him, but I couldn't. He explained to me that he couldn't have lived with himself if something had happened to me, so he had to make sure I was OK.

I saw Dave across the street. "Hey," I yelled to him.

Dave explained to me that he gave some guy $50 to get him something, and the guy vanished with his money. Poor Dave, I thought. What a bad night this guy's having.

"So, Dave, what was the guy going to get for you?" I asked.

"Oh, just some crack."

Well, you think you know somebody.

Dave left. Scott and I sat some more as he watched me beg for money. I didn't score much money, but did get another slice of pizza given to me.

It was Scott's time to leave. He again asked me to go with him. I refused. "You're doing it for the same reasons I started," he said. Scott was right.

On my own again, I had to find a place to sleep. However, after last night's sleep, I didn't want to be alone. I ventured to a local dance club not far from St. Paul Street where I met the most deranged individual ever.

Francis by name, maniac by profession. I listened to his every word as he tortured me with his insane details on how he paints, runs from the cops and delivers head butts. I assume he works in some sort of construction line, only because he wore steel-toed shoes.

He demonstrated the proper way to paint. He grabbed my hands and made them act as his. After every sentence he would say, "You know what I mean?" followed by a sinister laughter. I always responded, "Yes."

Scott Thomson (left) and Bill Stephenson sit in front of One St. Paul St. in St. Catharines. **Submitted photo**

There were points in the conversation when he would just stare at me. His big black eyes made me unsure of what he was thinking and what drugs he was on. He kept hugging me, so I didn't think he would hurt me, but I was on my guard. I was alone with Francis, and the club didn't open until 2 a.m. It was around 12:30 a.m.

Next were his police stories. You see, while Francis would be painting way up in the air on the scaffolding, the cops would always try to chase him. I don't know why they would chase him. I asked Francis, but my questions only made him more aggressive. He told me that one time he had to jump from two storeys to evade the cops. Naturally, Francis walked away without any injuries. "All I had to do, man, was, was, was, tuck and roll, you know what I'm saying?" Did I mention he spoke with a stutter?

I really felt awkward when he was giving me the head-butting lesson. You see, he was very good at describing all the techniques one should use to deliver the head butt. However, I felt the lesson was a bit too interactive. Yes, he head butted me. His head hit mine so hard my teeth chattered. Of course, I laughed it off. I didn't want to show any sign of fear. He asked me to go with him somewhere. Somewhere, he says, where the ladies look at you different. As appealing as that might sound, I wasn't about to go anywhere with this guy.

At what I'm guessing was 1:30 a.m. other people started to show up. They distracted Francis, and he left my sight for good.

I'm sorry, but the rest of my story is rather dry. I sat outside the nightclub for three hours until I managed to sneak in the back and be in warmth while listening to music.

Continued on page 15

HEALTH FILES

Society unconsciously sets standards for weight

By CRYSTAL LANGILLE
Staff Writer

In a society obsessed with thinness as its surest sign of success, nearly every woman has suffered at some point in her life with issues of weight, body shape and self-image.

There was a period of time during the 1800s when the full feminine figure was considered beautiful.

However, the slim, athletic-looking Gibson Girl, first created by artist Charles Dana Gibson, replaced it as the ideal in the 1890s. Thinness has remained a huge part of female attractiveness ever since.

Ironically, the Gibson Girl had measurements of 38-27-45, quite a lot larger than today's standards.

According to the National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders, seven million females and one million males suffer from eating disorders.

The three most common eating disorders are anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa and binge eating.

Niagara College nurse Carolyn Gould says the root of the eating disorder is within the individual.

She says eating disorders are a result of a combination of things, including "an unhealthy method of coping." She says that sometimes it could even be a control issue.

"Sometimes when they feel they don't have any control over anything else in their life, they start doing things that they can control, like what they eat and how they work out."

Anorexia is characterized by self-starvation, bulimia involves eating large amounts of high calorie foods in a short period of time, (referred to as bingeing and purging) and binge eating is a continual eating habit, whether the person is physically hungry or not.

All three disorders create an obsession with food, weight and body image.

They do not discriminate by gender or background.

One out of every 10 people with an eating disorder is male.

"With men, it's not so much a control issue, but a desire for the image of high muscle density and looking . . . attractive. They may use things like steroids, high protein drinks or muscle builders," says Gould.

The number of people affected by eating disorders has doubled between the 1970s and today.

Researchers believe the increase may be connected to the fact that in the 1970s, only six per cent of teenagers worried about their weight. Today that number has grown to almost 40 per cent.

Shannon Baylis, 19, a Pharmacy Technician program student, says, "Why would you want to look that way? It's ugly. You damage yourself. You end up sick just to look good for some guy or even some girl."

According to the National Women's Health Information Centre, at any given time 40 per cent of women are dieting, even though half of them are normal weight.

Increasingly, eating disorders have become regarded as a growing public health threat.

Pharmacy Technician student Krystal Popert, 18, says, "Your peers have a big influence on you. It's like, 'I want to be her size' or 'I want to look like her.' You see a girl in a magazine and it's the girl you've always wanted to be."

The National Institute of Mental Health reports that one in 10 individuals with anorexia dies of starvation, cardiac arrest or other medical complications.

Some studies show that as many as 20 per cent of eating disorders patients die as a result of their disorder.

"You don't want to end up dying for something as small as wanting to impress someone. If you're a couple of pounds overweight, don't worry about it. You look fine," says Popert.

Eating or dieting serves as a form of escape from emotional problems, such as low self-esteem.

"This is a method of coping, a method of having control . . . a method of being 'OK,'" says Gould.

She says the most important thing to tell someone with an eating disorder is "that you care, and listen when they need to talk.

"You can't tell an anorexic that they're anorexic. They won't believe you," she says.

"As a friend," says Gould, " Tell them that you're concerned. Say, 'You're scaring me. You're not looking healthy. You're dropping weight. Is there something that's bothering you?'"

Healing is a long process, she says, "They've got themselves programmed to believe that skinny looks good."

"You are predisposed to how your body form and shape is going to be. You just have to except that and say, 'I'm OK. I'm wonderful. I'm the way I'm supposed to be, not who I should look like or be like," says Gould adding, "The best thing you can do is to recognize, when looking at an ad, whether the person looks healthy or unhealthy."

"Healthy comes in all different sizes," she says.

If you or anyone you know is suffering from an eating disorder, you may contact the National Eating Disorders Information Line at (416) 340-4516, or Sheena's Place, an organization that provides support for patients and their families, at (416) 927-8900.

Get flu shot to prevent flu bug from affecting you

By TERRI LYNN LeBLANC
Staff Writer

Sneezing, sniffling, coughing, fever, aches and pains — do these sound familiar? The symptoms can all be prevented by one little needle containing the flu shot.

This year's flu clinic has been "bumped" to Nov. 23, says Carolyn Gould, because of the unavailability of the vaccine.

The Welland campus nurse says, "If you have not had it (the vaccination) before, see the doctor first." She recommends making an appointment before getting the vaccination.

The flu shot is "not for everyone," says Gould. It's mainly for people over the age of 65 and others who are prone to illnesses. Most of the latter have cancer, leukemia, kidney disease or diseases of the autoimmune system.

This year, in Ontario, unlike previous years, everyone who wants to have a flu shot can get one free of charge. You can see your personal doctor or call 1-866-FLU-'N-YOU (1-866-358-6968) for information about the nearest flu clinic.

Gould says, "If we're not looking after ourselves, then we're going to get the flu."

In order to avoid that this winter, she suggests getting a reasonable amount of sleep, eating three meals a day including items from all the food groups, having as much fun as you do work, and getting some rest and relaxation.

The flu shot has different side effects on people. After having the vaccination, "you can have flu-like symptoms," says Gould.

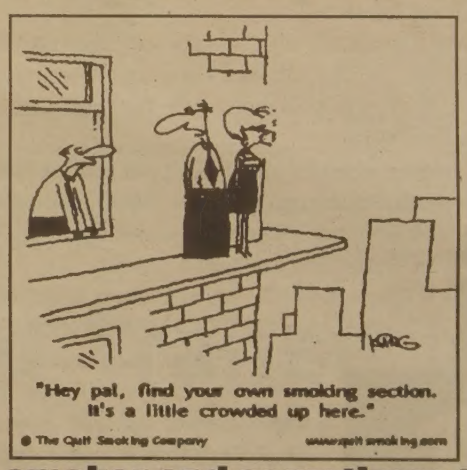
Some signs and symptoms include pain, tenderness, fever, muscle aches, tiredness and swelling of the throat. Gould says if you have these symptoms you should "stay home in a constant temperature, drink lots of fluids and stay put for one day."

If you have to perform at school or work there are medications you can take to "cut down the duration of the flu," says Gould.

One medication is Amantadine, which costs about $23. With this medication there are "some side effects that aren't always nice," says Gould.

Relenza is an inhaler. The cost is about $52. Tamaflu is another medication. It costs about $50.

Thinking maybe you should quit smoking... someday??



If you are a smoker and sometimes think about quitting... we want to hear from you!

Coming to Glendale Nov. 14, MMC Nov. 16

- ✔ Information to help you understand why quitting takes practice and strategies to help you quit for good
- ✔ FREE carbon monoxide testing
- ✔ FREE survival kits to help when you are tempted to smoke
- ✔ Individualized, computer assessment of your habit
- ✔ FREE self-help booklets "for smokers who want to quit smoking"

This is presented to you by

Leave the Pack Behind

http://www.leavethepackbehind.org

Funding for this program has been provided in part by the Ontario Tobacco Strategy, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. No endorsement by the ministry is intended or should be inferred. La Strategie antitabac de l'Ontario, Direction de la sante communautaire et de la promotion de la Sante et des Soins de longue duree finance ce programme en partie. Le ministere ne sanctionne d'aucune facon l'information contenue dans cette publication.

The 'Leave the Pack Behind' name for this program has been adopted, with permission, from the World Health Organization's 1999 World No Tobacco day campaign.

Created by: Catherine Leblanc & Erika Sielbelt, Queens University

Health fair postponed at Niagara College's Welland campus

By TERRI LYNN LeBLANC
Staff Writer

Niagara's Welland campus has postponed its health fair to Jan. 17, 2001.

It will be an "opportunity for the outside community to visit our sites and to show students the benefits of their resources," says Carolyn Gould, college nurse.

"(It will) help get (students) exposed to what's in the community," she says. "You might not need it (resources) now, but need it at a later use."

Various agencies will be represented at the health fair. These include St. John Ambulance, the Sexual Assault Clinic of Niagara, AIDS Niagara, Learning Disabilities, St. Catharines, and others.

"Not all of these agencies will be at all the campuses," says Gould."Hopefully, we will have a good turnout of agencies, even if we have 10. It gets you thinking. Numbers are not what we are looking for, but quality is."

The health fair will still be held at the Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake on Nov. 14 and at the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls on Nov. 16.

EDITORIAL

The Niagara News is a practical lab for the Journalism-Print program, covering the college community and other areas of interest.
Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the management of the Niagara News or the administration of
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True meaning of Remembrance Day

When you wear a poppy, do you think of its meaning? As you bow your head for two minutes of silence on Saturday, will you think about those whose lives were lost in military conflicts?

The meaning of Remembrance Day seems to have been lost somewhere along the line.

As the years go by, there are fewer people to tell us their stories of war. Soon, there will be no one.

It is important to thank those who were there who lived through such devastation and to let them know we will never forget.

People seem to think that because the World Wars were a long time ago, they aren't important enough now to recognize. This is not the case.

Picture a young soldier of 18 being sent to fight in a war in a foreign land, not knowing where he will end up or what he will encounter.

Separated from his family for months or years, witnessing death and destruction every day. As he charges across the muddy field and over barbed wire barricades, he sees his friends dropping beside him, screaming in pain.

Later, if there is time, he will bury them.

The young soldier sees things that will bring him to tears, even 50 years later.

The only thing keeping him going is thinking he will return home one day . . .

Picture the family, waiting at home for any news. Any news. Never knowing if their husband, son, brother, or father will come home. Never knowing if he is alive or what is happening to him.

This is only part of why we must recognize Remembrance Day.

These soldiers were real people. They had families that loved them. They gave their lives for their country. They are the reason we are free.

On Nov. 11, take those moments of silence and really think about these people. Those who were lost and those who came home changed in so many ways.

It's important to show you care.

Why? That young soldier could just as easily have been you.

Heidi Morrison

Slowly evolving into two-party system

With the federal election on Nov. 27 in Canada, and the United States election still pending, one can't help noticing how we are slowly evolving into the same two-party system as our neighbours to the south.

In the States it was a neck-and-red neck race between Vice-President Al Gore and the son of former president George Bush. The results of the election may not be known for a number of days as the recount continues in Florida.

In Canada, even though we have five major parties, it seems only two are in the running for the leadership of Canada.

The attempt at uniting the right made by the Canadian Alliance Party has left the Progressive Conservatives in a very weak position. They are not going to win any more seats than the 15 seats they already have.

The New Democratic Party has lost former provincial agriculture minister Bill Barlee, former British Columbian nurses' union president Cathy Ferguson and former NDP MP Rick Laliberte to the Liberals. This leaves the NDP in the same position as the PCs, just trying to stay afloat, at 19 seats.

The Bloc Québécois does not run any candidates outside of Quebec, so they are not a real force to take over the leadership of Canada.

That leaves Canadians with two choices: the Liberals and leader Prime Minister Jean Chrétien and the Alliance Party and newcomer leader Stockwell Day.

In the U.S., it was said that a vote for third-party candidate Ralph Nader was a vote for Bush.

Nader received about three per cent of the popular vote, most of which would have gone to Gore. Nader's votes may not be what decides the election, but if Gore loses, his supporters will be quick to point fingers at Nader and call him a spoiler.

Come Nov. 27, we in Canada could be facing a similar situation. Is a vote for the PCs a vote for the Liberals?

With the right not completely united, the PCs should steal votes from Day's Alliance Party, leaving Canada with another Liberal majority government.

One thing that remains different between the U.S. and Canada is that you can only serve two terms in office as president in the U.S.

Some Canadians are probably wishing that we were more like the U.S. in that regard. It might be the only way to stop Chrétien from being prime minister for the next few five-year terms.

Stephen D'Orazio

Your voice or opinion is welcome in our Letters to the Editor section. Our policy regarding letter submissions is this: All letters must be received on the Friday one week prior to publication. Each letter must include the writer's name, college identification number and program of study.
All letters must be signed and include a day and evening telephone number for verification use only.
All letters can be mailed or brought to the Niagara News newsroom, Room S212, Simcoe Building, Welland Campus.

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NIAGARA COLLEGE
of Applied Arts and Technology
WELLAND CAMPUS
LEARNING
RESOURCE CENTRE

VIEWPOINTS

Eminem receives publicity he thrives on

By SCOTT ROSTS
Staff Writer
Column

When I think of politicians, I think of busy people with a lot on their agenda.

After all, they have the responsibility of running the country, province or town that elected them into office. When I heard that discussion at Queen's Park turned to rap star Eminem, my thoughts changed.

On Oct. 25 Attorney General Jim Flaherty spoke about Eminem at Queen's Park and contacted officials at the federal immigration and justice departments to see whether Eminem could be kept out of the country. Canadian Alliance leader Stockwell Day even threw in his views, saying Eminem's lyrics should be censored and the singer kept out of Canada.

I have now begun to wonder whether the government has nothing better to do than debate entertainment issues. Eminem is a performer, not a government issue, and should be left to MuchMusic and MTV to talk about. Politicians should be concentrating their efforts on running our province, not running someone out of our country.

Flaherty slammed the rapper for his "vulgar and controversial lyrics about violence against women, drugs and murder." Day and Mel Lastman, mayor of Toronto, each jumped into the boat with Flaherty by making comments about the rapper and SkyDome officials allowing Eminem to play.

OK, I admit Eminem isn't an angel. He is, after all, facing assault and weapons charges in the United States. I do think that the government is going too far though.

Eminem is an entertainer. He is not a murderer. He sings songs. Yes, his songs are vulgar, but there is a warning label on his album. Some of his songs even tell listeners that there is no truth to them and mocks the idea of a listener thinking they are true. If anyone should be censoring his music, it should be parents, not the government.

Eminem's lyrics are a tool to create controversy and publicity. This ends up selling albums. He has had no problem doing that, as he has sold 12 million copies of his new album worldwide since its May release.

By Flaherty and Day making headlines over the issue, Eminem received what a "bad boy" entertainer thrives on: more publicity.

In the end the government got nowhere. Eminem got everywhere. He got to play at SkyDome and, most importantly, gained more publicity.

My message to our provincial legislature is to please focus on running our province, not the entertainment industry.

Insurance should cover birth control pill

By TERRI LYNN LeBLANC
Staff Writer
Column

Women, listen up.

What a good idea the student health plan, available through the Student Administrative Council, is. I don't have my own health plan coverage through my parents, and I can't afford to pay tons of money for prescriptions.

Well, that's what I thought until I found out the plan covers only certain prescriptions, and the one prescription I need is not.

That's right, it's birth control. Who knew this was not an eligible prescription? I recently went to the drugstore to pick up my prescription and was told by the pharmacist that this was not covered. I was appalled.

How could the health plan not cover this?

Now, instead of paying a few dollars a month, I pay almost $20. I don't know about the rest of you, but I can't afford to spend that every month. Maybe the simple solution would be to just to go off the pill, but I'm not willing to take that risk. The pill is not always used for contraception; it is also used for other purposes.

I think if women can't afford to pay for the birth control pills, then they'll eventually go off them.

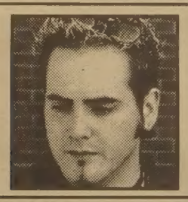
Unfortunately, that may increase the rate of teen pregnancy and other unwanted pregnancies that can then lead to an increase in the number of abortions.

Some of you might be thinking to yourselves, there are always condoms, but keep in mind they are not always 100 per cent effective.

I think the health plan administrator should look further into this. The reason for not covering this prescription should not have anything to do with religion, sex before marriage, or morals.

If a woman wants to be on the pill, that's her choice. The reason for covering the costs of this pill should be to prevent women from getting pregnant.

Men need to take look at washroom etiquette



By RYAN McLAUGHLIN
Staff Writer
Column

It's midnight, still early by Saturday standards, and I can hold it no longer.

You see, alcohol consumption inhibits the anti-diuretic hormone, causing frequent urination, and I was about to "break the seal."

I clumsily detach myself from the barstool I've called home for the larger part of the evening and begin my search for the facilities.

Reaching the restroom, I step up to the urinal and habitually ignore the amount of "water" on the floor. As I relieve myself, my hazy mind begins to wander, and I begin to ponder.

Why is there so much water on the floor?

Wait . . . wait . . . that's not water! I am standing in some poor-aimer's urine. Actually, I am likely standing in a collection of the bar patrons' urine.

Let us stop and think for a moment, the people in this bar consuming alcohol are, by all legal expectations, 19 or above. These are mature folk. These are voters, for heaven's sake!

I realize that a few beers will impair one's vision, but in most people's case using the washroom isn't operating heavy equipment. They aren't being asked to pee in a cup. Urinals are designed to be very forgiving about what they catch.

I concede that should you experience those gravitational shifts that are all too common when under the influence, your aim may be a tad off, but there is no excuse for what confronted me at my most vulnerable moment.

Men, perhaps we should follow a woman's example and take a seat.

Welland Transit leaves student stranded

By CLINTON HAGGART
Staff Writer
Column

Welland Transit has one of the worst transit systems anywhere.

I spent $250 on a bus pass and I still have to walk to school.

On Nov. 1, I boarded the Niagara Street No. 9 bus using my bus pass and Niagara College student identification. I was carrying a schoolbook.

I was going to transfer to the Woodlawn Road No. 10 bus at the Seaway Mall, but when my bus reached the corner of Niagara Street and Woodlawn Road, the connecting bus had already left.

My bus driver didn't ask if anyone needed that bus but she should have known I did because I had shown her my college ID.

I was late getting to school and I had to walk. A walk to the Welland campus from the Seaway Mall isn't long, but I did pay for my bus pass. I should be able to take the bus.

Joel Herrington, 21, of Cornwall, a second-year student in the Journalism-Print program, says the bus is always late.

On Oct. 20 the busses were running 15 to 20 minutes late. This is a problem for college students who rely on city transit to get to school. They miss deadlines and waste time waiting for busses.

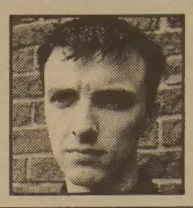
Welland Transit only runs until 6:30 p.m. and then a community bus goes around the city every hour.

Welland Transit isn't really a public service; it's a public nuisance and it can't be counted on to get you where you need to go. Something has to change.

Check Out Coverage Of The Federal Elections In The Nov. 24 Edition Of THE NIAGARA NEWS

VIEWPOINTS

Being a federal politician a horrible job



By CALUM McNEIL
Staff Writer
Column

It's election time in Canada so I felt it would be appropriate to express my sympathies to federal politicians across the country.

It must be a horrible job.

Imagine trying to build a consensus amongst 30 million people, some of whom desperately want out of the country.

It truly is a hopeless task.

Talk about pressure. These poor civil servants have everything they do analyzed and commented on. Imagine having your screw-ups published in newspapers and put on television.

There's no job security either. Every five years they have their careers placed in the hands of an electorate who are qualified to judge because they managed to live to be 18.

Some of the most intelligent, articulate and passionate Canadians work in the House of Commons, yet they have to shackle themselves to the fickle whims of a largely ignorant electorate.

I have had people tell me that politicians are overpaid. If anything, the opposite is true. Most top-ranked politicians are lawyers and could be earning much more in the private sector.

Now, if you want to pay politicians minimum wage that's fine by me — as long as you're comfortable having the guy that screwed up your order at McDonald's last night setting our defence policy.

People say they want the truth from their politicians, and they say they want them to speak their minds.

The reality is the only thing that being honest gets you in Ottawa is unemployed. The voters want to be lied to. They want to believe politicians are scum because they're jealous of politicians' power. Politicians realize this Catch 22 and act accordingly.

Most people, if asked, would say all politicians are corrupt. Well, I say good for the politicians. Take what you can, while you can, boys and girls, because you may only be there for five years.

You see, the electorate inevitably gets the government it deserves.

First-year students: be prepared for stress

By TARA FORD
Staff Writer
Column

I can feel the stress building with every new assignment and test that I hear about. As a second-year student, stress is inevitable.

Some of you in your first year here may be sitting out there laughing at my misfortune right now, but read this and take it seriously.

Last year I came to school and within the first couple of months my thoughts were, "Wow, if this is what college life is like, I love it!"

I went out almost every night, partying and drinking. I had hardly any homework, and when I did, it was done in no time.

This year, however, is a different story. Along with my full class load, I also have the responsibility of writing for the newspaper.

I have to budget my time so I can get everything done on time, because deadlines approach much faster than I expect.

It can be hard at times to keep my sanity what with staying up till all hours because I have put things off to the last minute or just completely forgotten about a deadline.

Don't get me wrong. I am not writing this in order for people to feel sorry for me. In fact, I am writing it for your benefit.

If you get nothing else out of what I just told you, just remember: please don't waste your precious time!

Never forget soldiers who fought for our lives

By CRYSTAL LANGILLE
Staff Writer
Column

It's scary to think that if we were born sometime earlier this century, many of the men you see walking the halls of this campus would have already experienced the horror of war.

Many of them wouldn't have lived this long.

Please guys, take no offense, but if there were a war involving Canada today, I don't think any of the young men of this generation have the mentality or the maturity to pack their bags and fight for this country.

It isn't that you aren't perfectly capable of holding a gun and aiming it at someone, but rather the fact is that you weren't raised in a world where the possibility of going to war was inevitable.

You, therefore, take your your freedom for granted. We all do it.

We're reminded of the fallen soldiers each year on Nov. 11, but we seem to forget them the rest of the year.

It's eerie to think that the next generation probably will not have any ties to anyone that fought in a war.

Will they remember?

Will the generations to come be reminded of their ancestors who fought so hard, with so many casualties, for their freedom and ours, or will the only reminder be in a history test's question?

This Remembrance Day take the time to stop what you're doing and share a couple moments with the brave men and women who fought so selflessly for our freedom and that of our children

Think about what it would be like if it were you sitting there in the trenches with the entire country counting on you to make things better.

It's because of the honourable generations before us that we don't have worry about it.

Thank you, to all those who made our lives a lot easier.

We are the lucky ones.

Letter to Editor: Students kicking nicotine addiction

Dear Editor:

I am a member of the Leave the Pack Behind program, an organization that began in February of 1999.

We are here to help educate students on their smoking behaviours and to lend a helping hand to any student who has the desire and need to quit smoking or requires information on nicotine addiction.

It seems since we have begun this program, a large number of students have come to us in desperation seeking help to quit smoking. For whatever reason students begin smoking, students also have a reason for quitting.

Writing from experience, I know how difficult it can be to quit any substance you may be addicted to and, in this case, it is nicotine. It is important to get the word out that help is available and people are not alone in the process.

We, as a community of students, need to pull together and help one another in any way we can. It is great to have support from students who are concerned on the matter of nicotine addiction.

If this organization helps prevent just one student from continuing in the habit of smoking, then it was all worth it. Just remember don't give up. Quitting takes practice.

For more information get online, www.leavethepackbehind.org or call health services at 735-2211 ext. 7635.

Joanne Klodnicki
Public Relations (Post-graduate) program

Remembrance Day a special occasion for Niagara College students

By PATRICIA HUGHES
Staff Writer

What does Remembrance Day mean to Niagara College students?

Pam Bailey, 21, of Wyoming, Ont., says Remembrance Day is "a day of respect for those who fought in the war."

Bailey, who is in her second year in the Social Service Worker program, says she doesn't attend any Remembrance Day functions now, but did back home.

She says this is a special occasion because "the men and women who fought in the war deserve to be remembered and respected. The least we can do is show our appreciation."

Bailey says Remembrance Day is important because it's a part of history.

'The men and women who fought in the war deserve to be remembered and respected.' — Pam Bailey

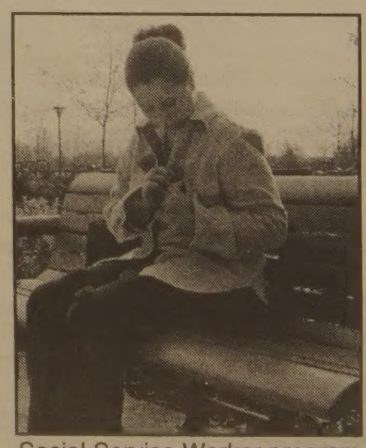
Jeannie Sherry, 20, of Waterford, Ont., says Remembrance Day reminds her of the soldiers who fought for Canadians.

Sherry, a second-year Social Service Worker program student, says she hasn't attended any Remembrance Day functions since high school.

Sherry says the poppy symbolizes "the deaths of soldiers." She says people need to be reminded. "It makes me stop and think."

Krista Fleming, 20, of Lindsay, Ont., is in her first year in the General Arts and Science program. She says Remembrance Day reminds her of Canada's freedom.

She says she doesn't know of any Remembrance Day functions at the school, but if she did she's not sure if she would go. "In high school we were told we had to go. Now that I have a choice, I don't know. It doesn't mean I don't appreciate it."



Social Service Worker program student, Jeannie Sherry, 20, pins a poppy on in preparation for Remembrance Day.

Photo by Patricia Hughes

Fleming says she doesn't think young people understand the importance now.

Tammy Pierce, 20, of Listowel, Ont., says Remembrance Day reminds her of those who fought for Canadians' freedom.

The second-year Social Service Worker program student says "of course (Remembrance Day is a special occasion) because we wouldn't be where we are today."

She says the only way it will stay important is "if we instil it in our children. If we neglect to, it won't be as important to them."

COMMUNITY NEWS

Festival of Lights returns to Niagara Falls

By SCOTT ROSTS
Staff Writer

Canada's largest light festival will return to Niagara Falls for the Christmas holiday season.

George Hostick, chairman, announced plans for the 18th annual Winter Festival of Lights at a media conference at the Sheraton Fallsview Hotel and Conference Centre in Niagara Falls on Oct. 11.

Although Hostick is new as chairman of the festival, he was the first chairman of the festival's night parade.

"What would a festival be without a parade?" he asked.

Hostick said he worked "closely" with the Festival of Lights held in Niagara Falls, N.Y.

New attractions at this year's festival include a new Mickey Mouse lighting display, a new live Disney show on opening weekend, a new lighting display at Dufferin Islands and a new float in the night parades.

'What would a festival be without a parade?' — George Hostick

Brian Merrett, chairman of the Niagara Parks Commission, hinted they might have "a couple of things up our sleeves."

Walt Disney Canada Limited has signed a two-year deal with the festival as a sponsor. Disney originally joined the festival in 1991.

Disney opens the festival on Nov. 18 with a new show, Mickey's Magical Holiday Surprise. An encore of the show will happen on Nov. 19.

On Nov. 25, Family Night is scheduled. Dec. 2 is Country Night, a night of country music headlined by Canadian singer John Landry. Dec. 9 is Flashback Night, "a night of good old fashioned rock 'n' roll." Hotel California, an Eagles tribute band, and Lighthouse will play that night.

The festival's annual New Year's Eve party starts at 7:30 p.m. with children's entertainers, The Smudge Fundaes, followed by Natalie McMaster. Jann Arden headlines the night's festivities. The celebration is televised live on Hamilton's ONtv.

The night parades are scheduled for every Friday night from Nov. 24 to Dec. 29. The final parade wraps up the festival on Jan. 1. All of these events happen at Queen Victoria Park.

Niagara Falls Mayor Wayne Thomson said the festival is "always a happy time of the year."

Asked the importance of the festival to the city, Thomson said, "Festivals like this are important to our economy. It helps bring people in during the tourism off season."

The light display will run from Nov. 19 to Jan. 16, 2001.

Hostick said the most appealing events to teenagers and students would be the celebration on New Year's Eve and Flashback Night. He said most teens "appreciate the music of back then."

Although the festival's event calendar wraps up on Jan. 1, the motion light displays will stay lit every evening until Jan. 16.

Time to say cheese

By HEATHER RUTA
Staff Writer

Students graduating from Niagara College this academic year should get ready to say cheese.

Until Nov. 17, Jostens Photography, of St. Catharines, will be at the Welland campus to take graduating students' photographs.

To ensure students look good for their photos, it's recommended males wear a light-coloured shirt and a dark tie, while females should wear a white or off-white shirt.

If students are not sure whether they will be graduating, they can wait to order their pictures.

The picture packages cost between $25 and $309. To help students choose their pictures, proofs will be mailed to them within four weeks.

Students should book their appointments as soon as possible. Students who miss getting their photos taken at the Welland campus can have their photos taken at the Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake from Nov. 20 to Nov. 24 and at the Maid of the Mist campus in Niagara Falls from Nov. 28 to Dec. 1.

Walking down runway for United Way

Darrell Neufeld, executive assistant to the president of Niagara College, models in the fashion show held in support of the United Way.

Photo by Tara Ford

By TARA FORD
Staff Writer

Hoping to raise $300 for the United Way, a group of second-year Human Relations students from Niagara College held a fashion show fund-raiser on Nov. 6.

Presented with the challenge of finding a money generator as a required project for their course, the students held the show at the After Hours pub on the Welland campus. The Group members included Lisa Burmester, Teresa Laus, Sigi Due, Julie Pasquariello and Krista Rootes.

The students were told they could "do anything" to raise money for the United Way. They originally wanted to organize a pub. They sought professional advice and pointers from Dave Rapelje, After Hours manager, who suggested doing a fashion show, so they went from there.

Some of the stores involved in supplying the fashions were Campus Crew, Thrifty's, Bootlegger and Garage Clothing.

Due said doing it was "a lot of fun" and the people donating clothes from the Seaway Mall were very "helpful."

The event ended up raising $400.

Participants of the United Way fashion show present Dave Rapelje, manager of After Hours pub, with a gift for his participation in the organization of the fashion show on Nov. 6.

Photo by Tara Ford

Retired Niagara College professor loses Liberal candidate race

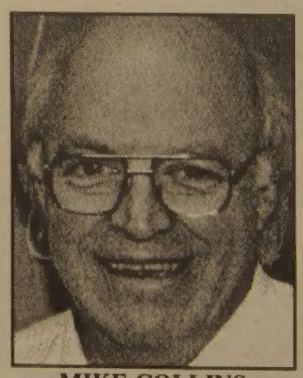
By JENNIFER CHORNLEY
Staff Writer

A retired Niagara College pro
for, but didn't win, the Liberal P
ination for federal candidate i
Centre recently. Mike Collins
threw his hat into the federa
electoral ring after the Oct. 17
announcement by Gib Parent,
Speaker of the House of
Commons, that he's resigning
politics.

Collins says he canvassed for
Party for 10 years and was a me
Niagara Centre Riding executive committee. He says he chose the party because
ral Party is the party that
y view and what is need-
ping Canada together."

Collins said his concerns
were for people who need
government the most, for
maintaining Canada's
lth care system, for the
less and for Canadian unity.
says, "Canada should
with our church groups
ubs to provide the home-
less with services they need."

He questions, "Who does Canada want: the Liberals or Stockwell Day, the opposition leader for the Canadian Alliance Party? Stockwell Day being prime minister is a scary proposition. I do not think Canada wants to go backwards. The oil people from Alberta will be running Canada. Mr. Day would be controlled by a narrow group of people, not typical Canadians."



MIKE COLLINS

"I have been to a dozen countries, and Canada is the best country you can find. It is a wonderful country," Collins says.

The Liberal candidate nominated was Tony Tirabassi of Thorold. He will be running against Mike Grimaldi, New Democrat Party, Joe Atkinson, Progressive Conservative Party and Bernie Law, Canadian Alliance Party.

LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS

Hearing-impaired student tries her best

By RACHEL MONTOUR
Staff Writer

She says she would not be where she is today if it were not for hard work, trying her best and believing in herself.

Christina Bradley, 21, of Welland, is in the two-year General Arts and Science program at Niagara College's Welland campus.

"Yes, I like the program very much. It has a good variety of courses I can take. I am especially interested in history. I am fascinated with the events that have happened around the world. I would like to know why certain people are famous."

She says she will be going to Brock University in St. Catharines as a full-time student next September.

"I am actually going to college and university right now because I am involved in the university path."

She says some of the credits she receives at the college will be transferred toward her bachelor's degree at Brock University.

"I am taking a BA in history at Brock." She says she would like to teach history and hearing-impaired children.

"I want to teach hearing-impaired children because I myself am hearing impaired, and I want to teach children with the same needs and background."

She says if she was offered a job on the East or West Coast she would go. "I truly hope I get a job around here because I have been living in this area all of my life. It's my home.

"Before I actually decided to come here, I was actually planning to go to the States." She says she was going to go to Madonna University in Michigan but she turned down the funding. "I wanted to go to a college or university closer to home.

"Yes, I am satisfied with Niagara College." She says the college has not met her needs completely, however.

"I have one specific problem with the Special Needs Office, with the notetakers. I can't rely on them because they might be sick or skipping classes. I find the system for notetaking the Special Needs Office is running is not very good. The reason why I say that is because there is a definite difference between the university notetaking system and the college notetaking system.

Christina Bradley is a hearing-impaired student at the college.

Photo by Rachel Montour

"Here at the college there is no real way of monitoring what the notetaker is doing. At the university level, the notetakers have to prove that they are doing their job properly. If they find that they are not doing their job, they're finished.

"Here at the college the Special Needs Office is not monitoring notetakers. They have no idea what the notetakers are doing. I am chasing notetakers to get the notes.

"The problems are (in) not being prepared for tests and exams. Perhaps the notetakers have not written correct information down.

"I have told the Special Needs Office thousands of times, but they only find other notetakers. That does not eliminate problems. The same problems occur."

Gilles Prescott, of Montreal, Que., is the co-ordinator for the Centre for Students with Disabilities at Niagara College's Welland campus.

He says if students are having a problem, they should contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities. "If we don't know that there is a problem, we cannot offer a solution. In general, we provide about 500 to 800 notetakers for students every year. When you are dealing with that many students, there are bound to be problems."

Bradley says she was born hearing impaired and has the ability to speak to others. "I always find a way to communicate with others."

She says she uses body language, writing back and forth, lip reading and sign language, although she does not "like to use writing back and forth."

"I prefer lip-reading. All my life I have been able to speak, so it is easy to lip-read. I also use sign language but not all of the time. I never use sign language at home."

"They (hearing-impaired people) should believe in themselves. That is how I got to where I am today.

"If they want to go to college or university, they have to work hard. If they think they can't do it, try their best. Get help if they need it, so they can achieve their goals."

Bradley says she likes to draw, read history books and watch movies. "Any movie related to history is a favourite of mine." She says her favourite history movies are Dances with Wolves, Braveheart and The English Patient.

This interview was conducted with the assistance of two sign-language interpreters.

Sign-language interpreters help hearing-impaired students

By RACHEL MONTOUR
Staff Writer

They say hearing-impaired students are hard working and dedicated. Sign language interpreters Kara Norton and Donayle Hammond should know. They work with them every day.

Norton, 28, of Thorold, says, "Our job is very rewarding. It's not a job where every day is monotonous. There is a lot of variety in our job. That way, it keeps it interesting."

She says the program she took in college seemed interesting when she was asked why she chose it.

Hammond, 31, of Mississauga, Ont., says, "We both went to St. Clair College in Windsor, Ont. It was actually only one of the two schools that offered the program in Ontario."

Hammond says the program was also offered at Sheridan College in Oakville.

Norton says, "The program was three years in length and it was very rewarding."

Kara Norton (left) and Donayle Hammond are sign-language interpreters for hearing-impaired students.

Photo by Rachel Montour

Hammond says she is able to help the hearing-impaired students by "interpreting the classes for them."

"I think they benefit because it's almost a necessity. If we weren't there then they would not be able to understand the teacher's lecture or what was being said in class. They would not be able to participate in groups."

Norton says, "The hearing-impaired students have the opportunity to take up any program they wish, and there are interpreters available for, I am assuming, any program."

She says because of her and Hammond's "friendly nature we make the students' studies pleasurable."

Hammond says, "I think one of the challenges is (that) it is hard to come in, do our job and then leave. It's almost like we sometimes feel as though we step outside our role and we become a friend to them as well. So it is hard, where we are trying to be professionals in our job and then trying to be personable. It is almost two separate things, so it's hard to divide the two of them."

Norton says, "Another challenge could be, depending on the program and the courses the student is taking, for example, we have to have the textbooks too. We have to keep updating our signs vocabulary and knowledge on various topics, so that can be very challenging and that can be a lot of hard work."

Hammond says the program is three years. "The first two years they teach us the actual sign language. The last year is focused more on interpreting. (As for) the language itself, as with any other language, you can't learn it in three years. It's always a learning process, especially when slang words are being developed and new technology comes about. You always have to keep on learning new signs and new words. It is a never-ending process."

Norton agrees.

Hammond emphasizes hearing-impaired people are "just like anybody else. I think that where the problem comes in is that people think they are different from what society considers to be normal."

Hammond says hearing-impaired students want to meet other students and do the average thing. "They want to join teams, clubs, committees and sports. Sometimes they just can't because there is no one there to interpret for them, or it's the language barrier."

Hammond says once hearing-impaired students reach the post-secondary level she finds that the students are "extremely hard-working and dedicated."

"As you can see, there's not many of them in post-secondary school, so it's really a challenge for them to get through high school and make it to this level."

Hammond says, "Educational interpreting is done on an hourly wage. It's done on a contract basis." She says an educational interpreter can make a "pretty good salary and you can take on freelance jobs."

Norton says she makes a "fairly good living."

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A Time to Remember

The true meaning of Remembrance Day

By BROOKE DREDGE
Staff Writer

May 1915 was the first time fresh green shoots and white blossoms appeared in Flanders fields.

The First World War had raged for nearly a year, and winter's gloom remained etched upon the skies. For two weeks, John McCrae, a Canadian medical officer, had attended to the wounds of injured soldiers in the Battle of Ypres.

McCrae and his staff cared for hundreds of men and women, but on the second day of May, one death in particular affected McCrae. A close friend, Lieut. Alex Helmer, was shot and killed early that morning.

McCrae could do nothing to save him but recite prayers as Helmer's remains were lowered into the Flanders' soil and the grave marked with a wooden cross.

Helmer's death inspired McCrae to write In Flanders fields, a poem, which, to this day, provides images of war, loss, love and renewal.

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved, and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

After completing the poem, McCrae went back to work at the dressing station. The war continued for three more years, in Flanders fields and beyond.

In Flanders fields became a universal symbol of remembrance. The poppy blossomed on the makeshift graves dug during the war. Soldiers often picked the flowers and wore them on their helmets as a sign of remembering their lost comrades.

In 1919, a group of Americans stripped the poppy decorations from a refreshment booth and left donations behind. Veterans' organizations soon realized that the demand for poppies could benefit disabled soldiers and their families.

By 1921, a poppy made by French war widows was among the first remembrance flowers sold in North America, and from there "Poppy mania" was born.

In Canada, McCrae's homeland, there was even talk of replacing the national symbol, the maple leaf, with a scarlet poppy.

Each year, millions of poppies are constructed from silk, plastic, paper or felt, reminders of those lost for our freedom. They are handmade and sold by veterans and volunteers worldwide.

The scarlet blooms we wear over our hearts represent remembrance and life, just like the sturdy poppies that blossomed in that once-bloody field of Flanders.

Remembering those who died for our freedom

By BROOKE DREDGE
Staff Writer

We observe Remembrance Day to honour the memory of all the men and women who have answered the call to serve in times of war and conflict. We remember the past and look to the future, with hope for a peaceful world.

Remembrance Day is a time to remember wars: the Great War of 1914-1918, the Second World War 1939-1945, and the Korean campaign of 1950-1953. Although we didn't go to war, we must also honour and remember those soldiers who fell in the Vietnam War and Gulf War.

It is also to honour those who lost their lives in or on peacekeeping missions in war-torn lands like Cyprus, the Golden Heights, and Lebanon.

In Canada, The Holidays Act of 1970 confirmed and established Remembrance Day. This meant that on Nov. 11 each year citizens would recall the day on which the Great War concluded by stopped everything and observing a moment of silence for those lost in the three wars.

The custom of remembering the casulties of war on the anniversary of Armistice Day began in 1919 at the suggestion of King George V of England. The king asked his people to observe three minutes of silence at 11 a.m. on Nov. 11 in memory of war victims and the declaration of peace.

That first anniversary found most people in countries involved in the war bowing their heads and coming to a standstill. Whether it was for two or three minutes, silence has always been observed. Ten million people died fighting in the wars we commemorate. Prime Minster Robert Borden, in 1917, established the Imperial War Graves Commission. Its task was to mark and care for war graves, to build memorials for the dead whose graves were unknown and to keep records and registers of all lost soldiers.

In Canada, each city, town and community erected its own memorial cenotaph. They range from a cross or plaque to an elaborate monument or sometimes a statute.

To commemorate all soldiers lost in the Great War, the National War Memorial, in Ottawa, was built in 1939. It was re-dedicated in 1982 to include the Second World War and the Korean campaign, and has come to symbolize the sacrifice of all Canadians who served Canada in times of war.

Remember those who went before us, fought and died for us because they believed that by their sacrifices, they could leave us a peaceful world. To observe Remembrance Day is to dedicate ourselves to the cause of peace, within ourselves, with one another and among all people.

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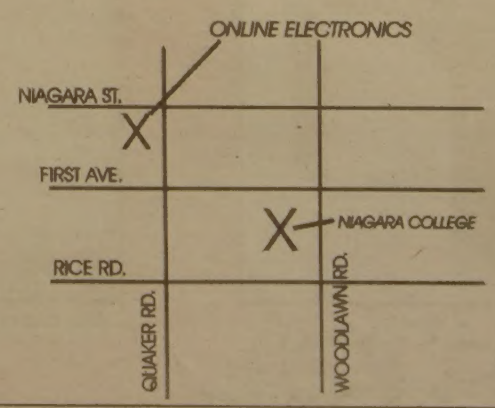

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REMEMBERING THOSE WHO FOUGHT FOR OUR FUTURE

Members of the Pelham branch of the Royal Canadian Legion pause to remember at the cenotaph.

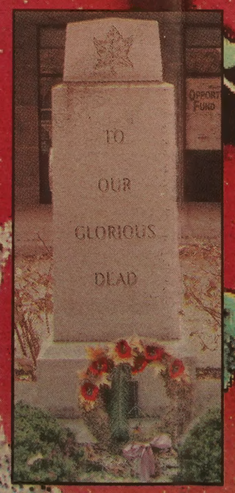
A statue of a lone soldier honours Canada's war dead outside City Hall in St. Catharines.

Legionnaires gather at Centennial Park in Fenwick before Remembrance Day.

Warrant Officer Brown instructs army cadets at the Pelham Legion.

PHOTOS BY HEATHER RUTA & COLLIN COULIS

War memorials honour Canada's soldiers.



A veteran sells poppies outside Wal-Mart in St. Catharines.

Corporals Haliwod and Bond stop to remember those who were killed in the war.

A Time to Remember

Remembrance traditions owed to McCrae

By PAUL FINELLI
Staff Writer

As they say each year around Remembrance Day, lest we forget. Still, few may know how a Canadian army doctor's famous poem and a certain perennial became associated with remembering those who've died in war.

On Nov. 30, 1872, John McCrae, the second son of army Lt.-Col. David McCrae and Janet Simpson Eckford McCrae, was born in Guelph, Ont. The youngest McCrae was educated at Guelph Collegiate and the University of Toronto's medical school. Interested in the military as a youth, at 14 he was in the Highland Cadet Corps and at 17 joined a militia regiment under his father's command, rising to the rank of lieutenant by 1896.

In 1898, after earning his degree in medicine and a gold medal from the University of Toronto, McCrae enlisted when the Boer War in South Africa began in October 1899. He was assigned to lead a gunnery unit from his hometown. In December, with his troops, he sailed for Africa where he spent a year.

Returning to Canada in 1901, McCrae resumed his former life, and the young doctor busied himself studying pathology. He gained employment as assistant pathologist at Montreal General Hospital before setting up a private practice in 1905 while continuing to help at several hospitals.

In August 1914, the Great War erupted. McCrae immediately re-enlisted and was appointed brigade surgeon to the First Brigade Canadian Forces Artillery. He sailed for England with the First Contingent on Oct. 3, 1914. After four months they moved to France. On on March 10, the young army doctor first saw the fighting at Neuve Chapell.

On April 20, the First Canadian Division took over a section of a French trench near Ypres, Belgium, in the northern region known as Flanders, which was the scene of some of the worst fighting and bloodshed of the First World War.

On April 22, the German army began gas attacks against French troops whose line was near the Canadians'. The French line broke as gas defeated them, leaving the Canadians alone to fend off the enemy.

Ironically, even amidst the muddy field of devastated buildings, roads, natural life and human remains, one thing managed to grow and thrive abundance. The poppy came each year with the warm weather, bringing hope and inspiration to the soldiers still fighting.

When a friend, Lieut. Alex Helmer, died from a shell's impact on May 2, McCrae, perhaps moved by the poppies sprouting in the field where his dead companions lay, scribbled in his pocketbook what would later symbolize the war's suffering and loss. As one story goes, McCrae afterwards discarded the poem, but a soldier came across it and forwarded it to England where it was published by Punch magazine in December 1915 as In Flanders Fields. Its popularity rose as civilians began finally to relate to those men fighting and dying to preserve our freedom.

> ***McCrae, perhaps moved by the poppies sprouting in the field where his dead companions lay, scribbled in his pocketbook what would later symbolize the war's suffering and loss.***

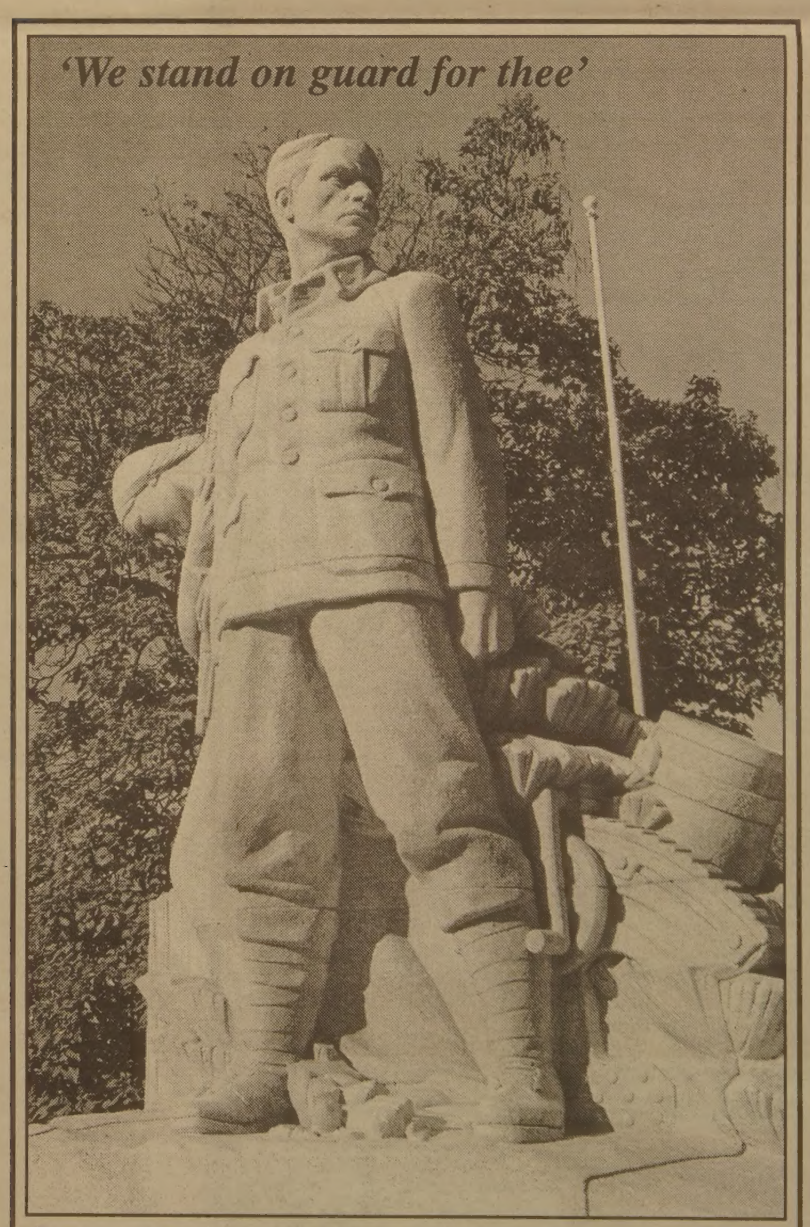
Soon after he wrote the poem, McCrae was stationed to No. 3 Canadian Field Hospital in France as its chief physician, and it was here, treating the wounded from such battles as Somme and Vimy Ridge, he felt its horrors.

During the summer of 1917, perhaps from the Ypres gas assaults, he was stricken with asthma and bronchitis. The following January he fell ill with pneumonia. He died at the age of 42 on Jan. 28, 1918, six days after being promoted to consulting physician to the First British Army. He was the first Canadian to achieve this station. Soon before his death, McCrae presumably echoed his poem, saying, "Tell this, if ye shall break faith with us who die, we shall not sleep." He was buried at Wimereaux Cemetery, north of Boulogne, France, not far from the fields of Flanders.

The war ended in the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. McCrae was still not forgotten; his poem certainly wasn't. An American war secretary with the YMCA, and a poet as well, Moina Michael, was touched by McCrae's verse and wrote, "And now the torch and Poppy red/Wear in honour of the dead."

She began buying red poppies with the money her fellow workers gave her. Wearing one of the poppies, she sold the rest to friends and gave the proceeds to needy soldiers. Soon afterwards, a French colleague, Madame Guerin, saw the impact of Michael's emblem and suggested selling instead artificial poppies, giving the money to help ex-soldiers and their descendents.

The idea caught on quickly and the poppy movement flourished.



The war memorial awaits visitors to Chippawa Park on First Avenue in Welland.

Photo by Scott Thomson

Hitler's historical persona must not be like Napoleon's

By SCOTT THOMSON
Staff Writer

Originally I intended to write this column as a fictional piece about how the world would be different if we had lost the Second World War.

The premise was pretty simple, or so I thought.

The truth be told, I cannot imagine any facet of my life had the war turned out differently.

The thought is too complex for a second-year Journalism-Print program student like me to handle.

Obviously, there would be fewer Jewish people on earth. I think we all realize that one.

However, I wonder just where would Hitler have stopped?

The technological revolution would have still progressed, but would the results be different?

I say yes.

It seems too far-fetched for me to think Hitler would have stopped at ridding the world of only the Jews. Whenever he felt angry with a group of people, they would no doubt have been exterminated.

The advances in technology only would have made it much easier.

Capitalism now controls our world and I find it too difficult to imagine the world any other way.

Sure, I may not love living in such a corporate world, but hell, it sure beats living under a murderous dictator.

As we move into the 21st century, it is our job to not forget the mistakes of the past.

We must continue to educate our children about the First and Second World Wars that completely altered the history of our civilizations.

We must not let history repeat itself this time.

The soldiers who so nobly gave their lives must not have died in vain.

> ***Napoleon tried conquering the world in the 1800s and, just over a century later, he's become somewhat of a folk legend. As time goes on, our view of the five-foot two-inch leader is slowly changing.***

The story of Hitler and his conquest of Europe and Asia must never be forgotten because once it is, it will happen again.

It wouldn't be the first time.

Napoleon tried conquering the world in the 1800s and, just over a century later, he's become somewhat of a folk legend. As time goes on, our view of the five-foot two-inch leader is slowly changing.

Napoleon used to be a murdering tyrant. History classes now give him a much softer image over the years.

Time better not do this to Hitler.

He should forever be known as an evil man.

Remembrance Day is not only about honouring the dead, but is also about realizing our mistakes.

STAYING ALERT

Watch out for Rohypnol at Niagara

By AARON YZERMAN
Staff Writer

If you're planning on drinking this year, be careful. Rohypnol is a problem, and it could be at Niagara College.

"People have to know that it's here, and that it's not just 'Oh, well I'm going to the campus pub, so I'm safe,' or 'I live in residence, so I'm safe.' It's not like that," says Kevin Easton, 22, of Welland, a second-year student in the Law and Security Administration program. "People need to know."

> ***'That's a really scary thing, to know that girls on campus may have had this happen to them and they don't even know it.'***
> ***—Kevin Easton***

Flunitrazepam, commonly called "rohypnol" or "roofies," has no taste, odour or colour when dissolved in drinks. It's used to cure insomnia in more than 60 countries, and has 10 times the strength of valium. It begins working within 10 minutes of consumption, and when combined with alcohol, can cause blackouts that last from eight to 24 hours. Many rapists use rohypnol on their victims because it will leave them with little or no recollection of what happened because it causes amnesia. Aside from amnesia, it can cause impaired judgment and impaired motor skills, respiratory depression, comas and death.

"That's a really scary thing, to know that girls on campus may have had this happen to them and they don't even know it," says Easton. "Anything with a potency to make you not remember and put you out like that . . . that can't be good."

"It's terrible stuff," says Rick Demers, manager of health, safety and security at the Welland campus. "The information to make it is pretty accessible. (It's) on the Internet and stuff like that."

Though it's not sold or marketed legally, rohypnol has been reported to be used for sexual assault in North America since 1993.

Easton says use of the drug was bad in Toronto and Hamilton, and it was only a matter of time before it came to the Niagara region. "Now, it's here and I just think people (had) better realize that it's not in Hamilton anymore. You can't assume that if you're at a bar and no one's from Hamilton, it's not going to be there, because it is," says Easton.

"Basically, the entire student body is at risk. (There) really isn't anybody that's immune to it," says Demers.

"I did do a presentation in my social deviance class," says Easton. "When I was in the class I said 'I want to talk to you for a few minutes — rohypnol is on campus,' and the one girl says, 'Rohypnol who? What's his last name?' That kind of scares me."

Rohypnol is tasteless, colourless and odourless when it is dissolved in drinks. It is used very commonly for sexual assault.

Photo by Aaron Yzerman

Demers says those that really don't believe it can happen to them are at risk, regardless of how old they are. "So, even someone from a big area can come down here and think that because it's a small town, it's not here. But it is. Or, somebody from a smaller place can think 'Well, I've never really been exposed to it. I don't really think about it,' but they shouldn't."

"In the Welland area, students cannot say 'I come from a place four or five times the size of this, I come from 15 hours away. This isn't scary,'" says Easton. "Students have to realize that Welland is not the nicest place. It's not the "Brady Bunch," where Greg and Marcia go to the high school, you know? I know a year or two ago, there was an incident where someone was getting bread and milk from a variety store on King Street or downtown in that area, and they got held at gunpoint for their bread and milk. It's not a huge place, but it's not a small place. Bad things can happen."

Though it is around, Detective Sgt. Randy Bleich, officer in charge of the child abuse/sexual assault unit for the Niagara Regional Police, says he hasn't seen a large increasing rate in the use of rohypnol in the area.

"It's hard to detect what's out there," he says. "I don't see it becoming a big epidemic." But, he says, it is a concern.

Bleich says people between the ages of 16 to 23 are most at risk of having their drinks tampered with, and females are not always targeted. "It's not solely females. It can happen to males and females," he says.

"Just because you don't hear about it, don't assume it's not here," says Easton. "It's here. Keep your eyes open. I don't think saying 'Well, there's only one incident,' and letting it slide is a good idea. It's a serious thing. You can't just think 'Oh, it won't affect me.' Because it can."

A FEW TIPS TO ENSURE YOUR SAFETY IF YOU ARE GOING TO DRINK

- Never leave your drink unattended.
- Travel in pairs.
- If you have to go to the washroom, have someone you trust watch your drinks.
- Be fairly cautious when meeting new people. If you get "bad vibes" about a person, find a different group of people to visit with.
- When a person asks to buy you a drink, ask the person to give you the money so you can buy it.
- Don't accept drinks that are already opened.
- Watch the bartender open or pour your drink.
- You may have to take your drink onto the dance floor.
- If you wake up not remembering what happened the night before, and you know you weren't partying that much:
  - Don't ignore it. Something could have happened.
  - Don't destroy evidence (showering, washing clothes or bedding).
  - Get immediate medical attention. Rohypnol can be detected for 36 to 72 hours in urine, and four to six hours in blood.
  - Tell someone you can trust.

Stranded on the streets

Continued from Page 4

In the morning I called my mom. It was reassuring to hear her voice.

I walked to the Fratt House where she would pick me up. It was a beautiful Saturday morning. I had accomplished the impossible. I was wondering what Scott was doing as I saw my reflection in a store window. Maybe he was sleeping.

> ***I kept asking myself the same question: why did I do it?***

I had slept maybe four hours the entire time. I looked over my shoulder to see whom I heard talking. No one was there. My mind was having fun with me now. I was sitting on the front steps of the Fratt House losing my mind. Footsteps would creep up to me and then vanish the moment I investigated them.

I now look through a new pair of eyes. I see the garbage on the ground and the money that goes to waste. Maybe you do too, but do you care?

Every time I sit on a chair I remember what it's like to live on the ground. I won't forget the blood stains on my feet as I took my socks off, and the way they stuck to my skin like sponges. Spots of purple had formed on my toes from the lack of circulation. The pain in the muscles in my back brought me to my knees, but this was a good thing because my legs couldn't support me. My calf muscles forced me to limp and walk on my heels for relief from the pain. My eyes looked as if they were sinking into my skull. They were all black around the outside, and all day I had stabbing pains in my side. I was starving, but I couldn't eat. My speech was slurred. I couldn't talk or write properly. I took three showers that day, but still didn't feel clean.

I think the best part of the journey was hugging my mom when I got home. Tears wanted to sprinkle down my face, but I didn't let them. I am so thankful for every single thing I have. I will never complain if my mom makes me something for dinner that I don't like. I know how valuable every second she takes to prepare that food is.

I didn't sleep the next night either. I lay awake in my bed, staring into blackness thinking about all that had transpired. I kept asking myself the same question: why did I do it?

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FOLLOW THE MONEY

Niagara to raise $10 million over five years

By LAURA T. RICCIUTO
Staff Writer

Niagara College's fund-raising officials hope to raise $10 million over the next five years, with support from the community, to cover costs of expansion and infrastructure at three campuses.

The campaign will involve all of the Niagara College community, says Christopher Blake, executive director Niagara College Foundation, who oversees the college's fund-raising.

The funding will allow the Master Plan to be implemented as scheduled, despite the departure of Blake at the end of December.

The Master Plan is a multi-year phased plan of new construction and renovation encompassing all three campuses, including infrastructure, technology and services.

Organizational outlines call for participation by alumni, students, faculty and support staff with key sector leaders being drawn from the administration and Board of Governors.

Blake recently provided an overview of basic campaign targets and strategies.

Niagara College will be launching a $3.3-million campaign in early 2001 for Phase One of the Master Plan.

The $7.3-million expansion project is focused on redeveloping and expanding the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls.

Initial ideas include adding a second floor addition to the building as well as expanding the capabilities of the culinary facilities.

Niagara College has received $4.3 million from provincial funding, leaving the balance dependent on donations. The $3-million remainder plus the $300,000 for campaign expenses brings the campaign goal to $3.3 million.

Blake says the college will be targeting potential donors with "big stakes in hospitality."

The executive director says the foundation "needs to go beyond the region to reach $3 million."

He says the search will include approaching six or seven large hotels as "lead donors" as well as major restaurant and food chains across Canada.

Upon completion of Phase One, the foundation has proposed Phase Two, which includes a multi-million dollar project targeting academic technological priorities. The majority of technological advancements will be at the Welland campus in the areas of computers, radio broadcasting and multimedia.

Following the completion of the first two phases, a Glendale Site Development project is under consideration for Phase Three.

Blake says they do not have any figures as far as cost. "We can't estimate that far ahead. Prices go up every day."

He says the future projects expect to be long-term, developing over the next five to 10 years.

The Niagara College Foundation has contracted a fund-raising consulting firm, which will be used for a one- to two-year term. The cost of the firm's services to the college for a 12-month basis is estimated at $30,000. They are responsible for "donor research and matching needs of potential donors," says Blake.

On the advice of the hired consultants, a capital campaign steering committee has been created to oversee the production of Phase One and Phase Two.

The 12- to 15-member committee will include representatives from the board of governors, Niagara College Foundation board of directors, alumni, college administration including Blake and Dan Patterson, college president, as well as external representatives.

The role of the steering committee is to oversee the capital campaign and to recruit volunteers. "This is where we bring the big guns out," says Blake, with a chuckle.

In addition to the capital steering committee the consultants advised that each phase have a separate advisory committee in place.

The roles of these adviseries are "identifying donors and opening the doors to them," says the director, adding, "the academic departments summarize the needs."

The foundation is preparing an array of special-event dinners to assist with fund-raising.

Blake says they would like to be host of a future outdoor event at Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake described as "the greatest barbecue the world has ever seen."

Yuk Yuk's hosting fund-raiser for college's Child Care Centre

By HILARY TAYLOR
Staff Writer

Yuk Yuk's Comedy Club in Niagara Falls will be hosting a fund-raising event for the Niagara College Child Care Centre on Friday, Nov. 24.

The day-care centre is raising money for supplies and equipment, including renovations to the playground. Pat Eversden, manager of the Child Care Centre, says all the money raised will go back into the centre.

She says the centre did some fund-raising with Yuk Yuk's about two or three years ago and was successful. Eversden says the centre may do it again if turnout is good, but would like to try different methods of fund-raising.

The tickets for the event will be selling for $12 each and the centre gets a percentage of what they sell. Tickets may be purchased through Eversden at the Child Care Centre at ext. 7587. Upon purchasing a ticket you must call Yuk Yuk's at (905) 357-5233 to verify your spot.

Tim Nutt, Ron Josol and Scott Harris are scheduled to perform that night. The show will begin at 9 p.m.

Although Yuk Yuk's usually only caters to those who are 19 and older, a spokesperson from Yuk Yuk's says it will allow people who are 18 to attend if they purchase tickets.

Yuk Yuk's is at 6080 McLeod Rd. in Niagara Falls, Ont.

Niagara News Readership Survey

Win free tickets to see **Kim Stockwood**

Readers' responses to this questionnaire will help Niagara News make decisions about the content of your college newspaper and gauge readers' interest in an online version of the newspaper. Completed questionnaires can be dropped into any response box until Nov 24TH. Response boxes are located by Niagara News racks at Niagara College. To win 2 free tickets for **Kim Stockwood** on Thursday, Nov. 30TH. at Centre for the Arts, Brock University, or one of two pairs of Famous Players movie passes, please include your name, telephone number and e-mail address at the bottom of the questionnaire.

PLEASE FILL IN THIS BALLOT TO WIN

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Campus *(if applicable)* ❑ Welland Campus ❑ Glendale ❑ Maid of the Mist

EMail _____

1. How often do you read Niagara News?
   - ❑ I read every issue.
   - ❑ I read most issues.
   - ❑ I read a few issues.
   - ❑ This is the first issue I have read.

2. In your opinion, what are the strengths of Niagara News?
Please place a check mark in the column that you think applies to each of the following aspects of the paper.

	Very Well	Done Well	Done Fair	Poor	No Opinion
College Program News	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Opinions (Editorials)	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
SAC News	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
College Administration News	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Community News	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Entertainment News	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Sports News	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Individual Campus News	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
General Layout and Appearance	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Photography	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑
Advertisements	❑	❑	❑	❑	❑

3. Is there a feature that you would like to see added to Niagara News? *(Please specify.)*

_____

_____

4. How often do you use the Internet?
   - ❑ At least every day
   - ❑ 2 to 5 times a week
   - ❑ Once a week
   - ❑ A few times a month
   - ❑ I don't use the Internet

5. What do you use the Internet for? (Check all that apply.)
   - ❑ researching school assignments
   - ❑ purchasing products or services
   - ❑ e-mail
   - ❑ chat lines
   - ❑ game sites
   - ❑ reading online newspapers
   - ❑ checking sport scores
   - ❑ entertainment
   - ❑ other (please specify) _____

6. Which of the following would you like to see in an online version of Niagara News? *(Check as many as apply.)*
   - ❑ Highlights of upcoming events at Niagara College
   - ❑ Up-to-the-minute Niagara College news stories
   - ❑ Question and answer forum between writers and readers
   - ❑ Links to specific campus programs
   - ❑ The same content as the print version
   - ❑ News photo galleries
   - ❑ Instructor messages
   - ❑ Only the top stories from the print version
   - ❑ Other *(Please specify)* _____

7. How likely would you be to visit a website featuring an online version of Niagara News?
   - ❑ Very likely
   - ❑ Likely
   - ❑ Unsure
   - ❑ Rarely
   - ❑ Never

8. Please check which of the following applies to you. *(Check all that apply.)*
   - ❑ First-year student
   - ❑ Second-year student
   - ❑ Post-secondary program
   - ❑ Post-graduate program
   - ❑ Apprenticeship
   - ❑ ESL International
   - ❑ Skills Training
   - ❑ Alumni of Niagara College
   - ❑ Faculty of Niagara College
   - ❑ Staff of Niagara College
   - ❑ Community Member of Niagara
   - ❑ Other (Please Specify)

INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

Niagara-born ambassador visits Niagara College

By JENNIFER CHORNLEY
Staff Writer

Niagara College is the first Canadian college to launch a partnership program with the Canadian Landmine Association to raise money for the banning of landmines worldwide.

There are about 70 million landmines remaining in war-torn nations such as Cambodia, Vietnam, Bosnia, Herzegovina, Mozambique, Croatia, Afghanistan and many nations in the African continent.

In an address at Niagara recently, Daniel Livermore, ambassador for Landmine Action, says the countries have farmable land, but "people are too afraid to set foot on the land because of landmines. They don't know what their future is going to be."

Frank O'Dea, chair for the Canadian Landmine Associationand co-founder of the Second Cup Coffee chain, says this foundation is dedicated to fully fund the removal of landmines.

The foundation aims to reach out to the Canadian population and make them aware of the issue through Rotary clubs, colleges and universities.

Scott Fairweather, senior adviser to the Canadian Landmine Association, explained to the *Niagara News* in a telephone interview, that the foundation is forming a partnership with the Rotary Clubs of Canada because they raised millions of dollars for the Polio Plus cause. The Polio Plus cause is an organization to fight polio around the world. The foundation felt the Rotary Club would be a "good organization to pair up with."

They are forming partnerships with the Kiwanis Club, "but for now the Rotary clubs," says Fairweather, 46.

Daniel Livermore, ambassador for Landmine Action, talks with Susan Vandenboom, co-ordinator of the ESL program, and Bob Bruce, assistant governor for District 7090 Rotary International.
Photo by Jennifer Chornley

Livermore explained that in 1996, under Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy, Canada took on the world leadership challenge to ban landmines.

On March 1 of last year, 40 nations ratified the Ottawa Convention, creating the Mine Ban Treaty and it became international law.

As of September, 107 nations have ratified the treaty.

Livermore says Canada's leading role regarding the banning of landmines is "a Canadian victory."

International organizations such as the Red Cross, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) workers and Canadian peacekeepers encounter these "silent killers" as part of their work.

Livermore says the legal trade in landmines is over. Thirty-four nations prohibit the export of landmines, while 54 countries prohibit the production. Although mines remain stockpiled in warehouses, 21 nations have destroyed their stockpiles, while 77 states are in the process of doing so.

The main problem regarding the issue is the lack of media attention, Livermore says. "You need royalty to sell the story." The peak in media coverage was in 1997, but interest has declined since then.

For nations most affected by landmines, it will take a decade or more to uncover all landmines and allow nations to operate again. Livermore says he'd like to see the destruction of landmines "in years instead of decades, and return the hectares of land to the people of these nations so production can begin and a new economy be created."

O'Dea says the destruction of a landmine in a field costs $1,000, compared to the $1.50 for building.

Livermore grew up in St. Catharines and lives in Ottawa. He has been a foreign service officer for 25 years. During that time, he was an ambassador to Guatemala for three years.

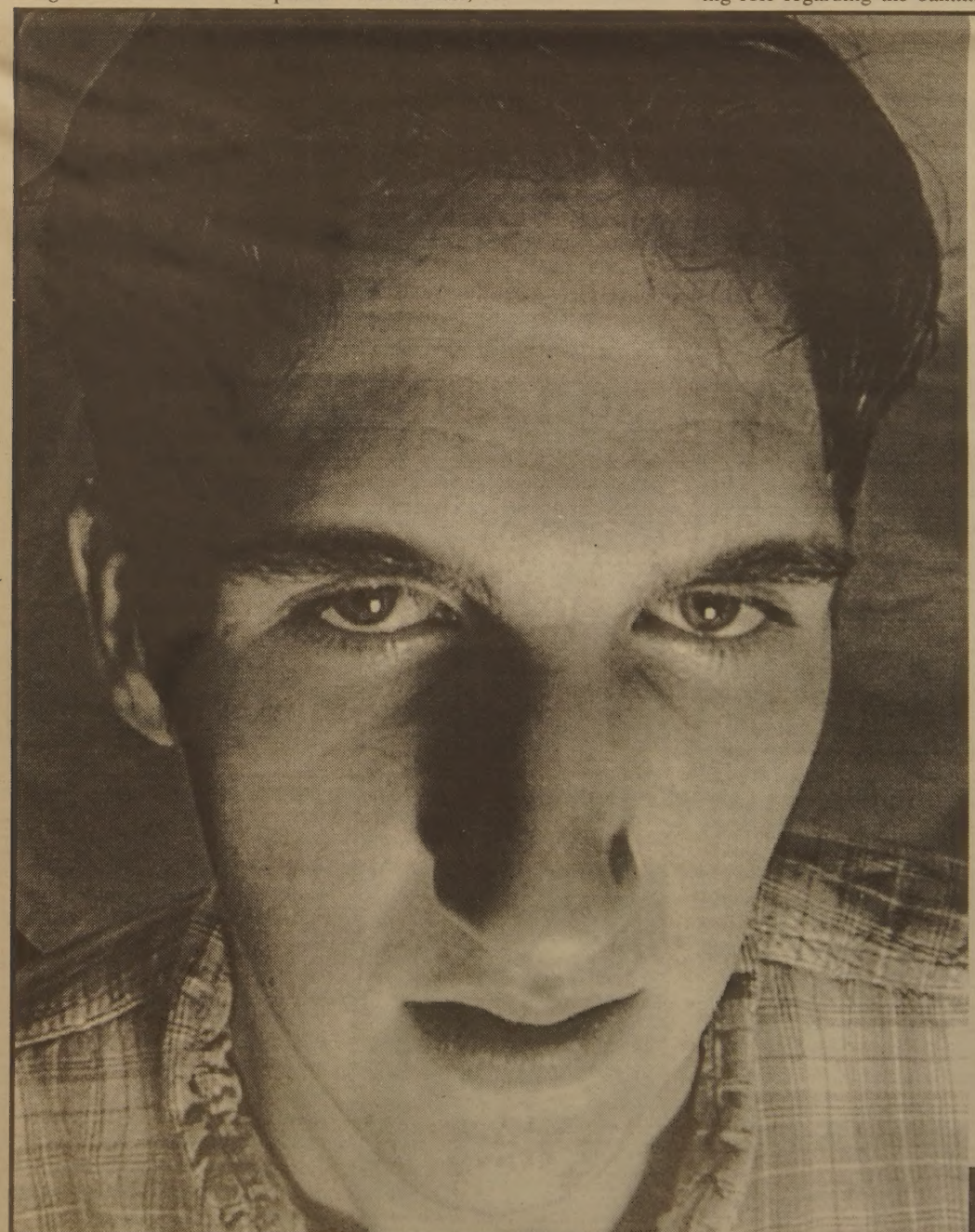
Livermore began his job as Ambassador for Landmine Action in September 1999 and says, "It is a terrific job."

Livermore has a bachelor of arts (BA), master of arts (MA) and doctor of philosophy (PhD) in history. He received his BA from Brock University in St. Catharines, MA from Carleton University in Ottawa, and PhD from Queen's University in Kingston.

Remaining Landmines

• Afghanistan	5 to 7 million landmines
• Bosnia and Herzegovina	600,000 to 1 million landmines
• Cambodia	4 to 6 million landmines
• Croatia	400,000 landmines
• Mozambique	1 million landmines

Source: Adopt-a- Minefield brochure.
For more information, click on www.canadianlandmine.com.



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PASS THE POPCORN

Pay It Forward equals money well spent

By TARA FORD
Staff Writer

What would you do if challenged to change the world within one year?

Such is the question in Pay It Forward, a new film by director Mimi Leder.

Trevor McKinney, a small boy from a single-parent household, often is heard describing the world as "shit."

This changes on his first day in Social Studies class when he meets his teacher, Eugene Simonet. Eugene captivates the class, at first, with the burn scars across his face but attention is soon drawn away when he gives his students their assignment for the year: to change the world.

While the rest of the class is dispirited by the project, Trevor comes up with the idea of "paying it forward." The proposition is that he (Trevor) will do three big favours for three people, and then those three people will each do three more favours for each of nine other people, thus making "paying it forward" grow.

Trevor's idea was based on the faith between persons, but with an alcoholic mother and a father that ran off when Trevor was young, he doesn't seem to have much faith in the world. Eugene is brought into his mother's life because of this situation.

All the lead actors play their respective parts wonderfully. As Arlene McKinney, Helen Hunt balances her role of alcoholic waitress and loving mother.

You always are made to feel sorry for her, although you never expect her to do what's right for her son either.

Kevin Spacey, as Simonet, is everything between doting, thoughtful teacher and hurt, cowering individual who has skeletons in his own closet to deal with.

Equally good, there's Haley Joel Osment in the role of McKinney. He possesses the talent of a weathered actor but plays the role of a child gracefully. He can show innocence and fear in one instant but then supreme bravery the next.

This film is nothing short of beautiful. It shows the real fear of being a child in a world full of cruelty but never crosses the line into absurdity.

Oh ya, remember to bring your tissues.

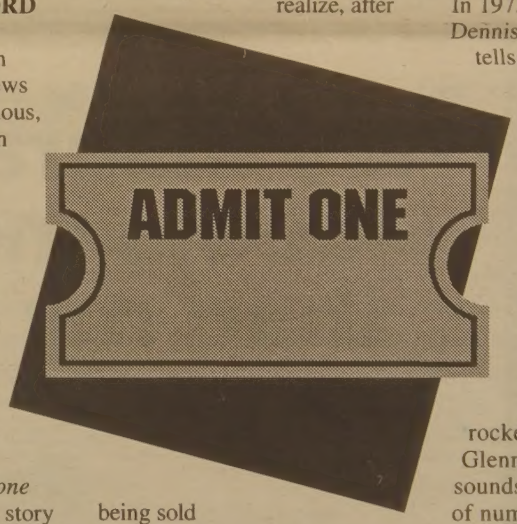
Director Cameron Crowe's Almost Famous relives lost era of classic `70's rock

Almost Famous is semi-autobiographical, mixing real-life elements with fiction

By KEVIN HARTFORD
Staff Writer

Writer/director Cameron Crowe has said in interviews that he wants Almost Famous, his recently released paean to '70s rock, to feel like "an album you discover," but it doesn't feel like that. It takes you a while to appreciate an album. You'll like Almost Famous immediately.

The plot centres around 15-year-old journalist William Miller (Patrick Fugit), who lies about his age and is hired by *Rolling Stone* magazine to write a cover story on an up-and-coming band called Stillwater. Despite protests from his mother Elaine (Frances McDormand), Miller goes on tour with the band, makes various (failed) attempts to land an interview with lead guitarist Russell Hammond (Billy Crudup), and falls in love with a groupie named Penny Lane (Kate Hudson).



The movie is more about theme than plot. It's character-driven. William longs to be part of the rock 'n' roll scene, despite his forever being, in his own words, "uncool." Penny convinces herself she's in control of her situation, only to realize, after being sold for $50 and a case of beer, that she's being used.

Russell claims to be searching for "something real," but continues to be an active participant in the superficial rock 'n' roll lifestyle. Elaine wants to respect William's decisions, but stops in the middle of the college philosophy class she's teaching to announce, "Rock stars have kidnapped my son!"

The dialogue is the film's strong point. William's sister Anita (Zooey Deschaniel) plays a Simon and Garfunkel record for their mother and says, "This song explains why I'm leaving home to become a stewardess." In 1973, Stillwater manager *Dennis Hope (Jimmy Fallon)* tells the band this:"If you think Mick Jagger's going to be 50 and still trying to be a rock star, you're dead wrong, my friends."

Almost Famous is semi-autobiographical, mixing real-life elements with fiction. Crowe really did write for *Rolling Stone* at the age of 15, the character of Russell Hammond is based on rockers Gregg Allman and Glenn Frey, and Stillwater sounds like an amalgamation of numerous '70s bands (or, as *Premiere* magazine puts it, "You may as well call them The Lead-free Company.")

Crowe, who wrote and directed Jerry Maguire, captures an era of rock that no longer exists, but does so in a way that makes you wish it still did, and makes you wish you were there.

Meet the Parents rises above all comedies of 2000

DeNiro and Stiller star in this amazingly funny comedy about the stress of meeting your girlfriend's family for the first time

By PATRICIA HUGHES
Staff Writer

Meet the Parents is a comedic movie about a man who meets his girlfriend's parents for the first time.

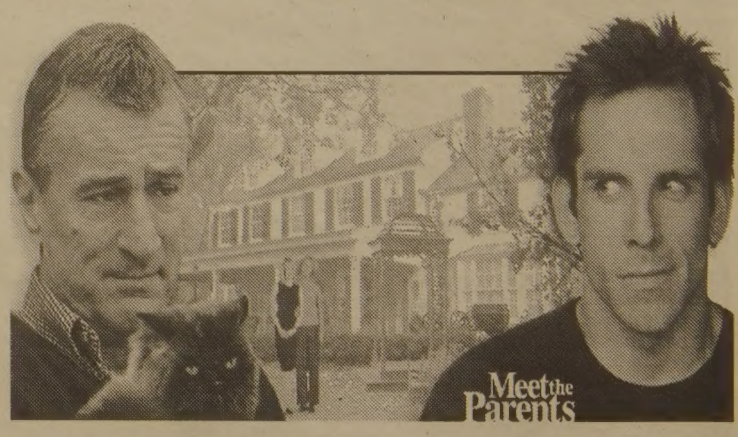
Ben Stiller stars as Greg Fokr. No, it's not misspelled, and so the comedy begins. Stiller's character is desperate to marry his girlfriend, Pam, played by Teri Polo. Greg finds out that Pam's dad, Jack, played by Robert DeNiro, respects men who ask his permission to marry his daughters.

Oblivious to what Greg has planned, Pam takes him to meet her parents. Greg goes expecting to impress them. What he doesn't know is that you can't impress a man who wants to keep his little girl all to himself. It all goes downhill from there.

Just when you think it can't get any worse, it does — from losing Jack's much-loved cat, ruining his other daughter's wedding, to nearly burning down his house. These are just a few of the humiliating, but entertaining stunts pulled.

This is the funniest movie I've seen all year. DeNiro, Hollywood's favourite mobster, steals the movie with his quirky Father Knows Best antics.

First, Rocky and Bullwinkle, then this. What's next?



Braveheart, stand aside — here comes The Patriot

By JOËL D. HERRINGTON
Staff Writer

If you thoroughly enjoyed the movie Braveheart, I introduce to you a similar yet more historically accurate version, The Patriot.

Written and directed by Roland Emmerich, The Patriot is an excellent interpretation of the War of American Independence against British rule during the late 18th century. Mel Gibson stars as Benjamin Martin, a widowed father with six children and a short fuse when it comes to battle.

When his second-oldest son is killed and oldest son Gabriel, (Heath Ledger — 10 Things I Hate About You), is sentenced to death by hanging, Martin decides to join the rebellion and gets assigned as colonel of a voluntary malitia. With the help of his new position and reinforcements, Martin vows to seek vengeance on his son's killer, who happens to be the colonel (Jason Isaccs) of the British army.

In essence, the first 45 minutes are absolutely gripping. The Patriot progresses with intense batties and great demonstrations of a father's love for his family. Gibson is as passionate, relentless and violent as he was in Braveheart. However, the 165-minute-long movie has more historical accuracies and stronger scenes of suspense. Furthermore, Martin's men don't paint their faces like innocent children or psychotic savages.

Using several locals, including his son, Martin's militia helps the rebel army towards victory over the British redcoats.

I've now seen The Patriot on the big screen and on video. Usually, my liking for these types of movies deteriorates when the movie screen shrinks by 50 square inches. That didn't happen this time. Even if you watch it on television, The Patriot is still very impressive and captivating.

I give this brilliant masterpiece a five-star rating because of its action, drama and reality.

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THE CURTAIN RISES

Grease gets standing ovation in Toronto

The Elgin Theatre was host to this classic musical

By CHRISTINE CHALONER
Staff Writer

Grease is the word.

At least it was on Oct. 21 in the Elgin Theatre in Toronto.

The popular movie Grease, from 1978 that starred John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John, as 1950s teens and lovers complete with hit songs and nostalgia cars, was remade for the stage. The musical, starring Ma-Anne Dionisio as Sandy and Rick Miller as Danny, was staged at the Elgin Theatre from Sept. 21 to Oct. 22.

For two hours the theatre was full of music and dancing that captivated the audience. Dionisio was born in the Philippines and moved to Winnipeg in 1990. She became known in 1993 when she played the lead role in another stage play, Miss Saigon. She was a good choice and a new face to play the blonde-haired Australian Sandy.

The rest of the Pink Ladies were Katie Emme McInnich as Rizzo, Jana Reidel, from Waterloo, Ont., as Marty, Sharmaine Ryan as Frenchy, and Keisha T. as Jan.

Miller played in Grease previously in the first-ever French translation as Kenickie, Danny's sidekick.

The rest of the T-Birds were Dean Balkwill, from Saskatchewan, as Doody; Jay Davis, from Elmira, Ont., as Kenickie; Jason Knight as Roger; and Anthony Malarky as Sonny.

The cast was excellent at portraying the students at Rydell High and received a standing ovation for their work.

Allan Sandler, of Sandler/Poulin Productions in Montreal, and Jeffrey Latimer, of TaurPro Entertainment Inc. in Toronto, were the producers.

Sandler originally produced Grease in Montreal, selling out to 90,000 fans in its three-and-a-half-year run. It was honoured with the Billet d'Or (The Golden Ticket Award). The cost of each ticket in Toronto was $75, which is a little pricey, but worth it.

For two hours the theatre was full of music and dancing that captivated the audience.

The cast sang the famous songs *Summer Nights*, *Grease Lightning*, *You're The One That I Want*, as well as a parody of a few others — *Mooning* and *Rydell Alma Mater*.

Doody Balkwill had the audience in hysterics during his song, *Those Magic Nights*, sung in the boys' locker room.

A few towel-clad students joined Doody's singing as he was breakdancing.

The songs were non-stop movement, especially *Born To Hand Jive*, with the entire cast joining in in sequence. The choreographer was Dominique Giraldeau and Kerry Gage was dance captain.

Any fan of Grease would love this musical and those who aren't fans will soon be after seeing it.

Trials of early Canadian women take to the stage

By KANDIS THORSBY
Staff Writer

Life in early Canada was not for the faint of heart, as The Bush Ladies vividly portrayed, on Oct. 25 at Brock University's Centre for the Arts, in St. Catharines.

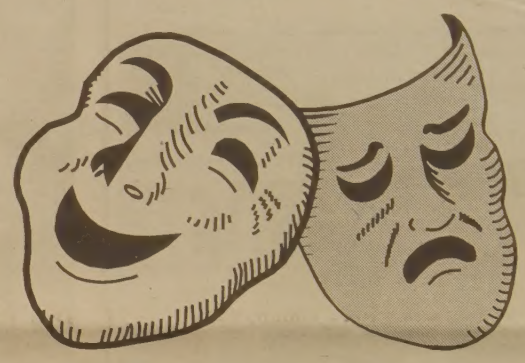
The play, adapted and directed by Molly Thom, explores the trials and tribulations of four gentlewomen building lives and homes in Upper Canada in the 1830s.

Narrated in the first person, the play focuses on four women: author Susanna Moodie, who lived from 1803 to 1885; Moodie's sister, botanist and writer Catharine Parr Traill (1802-1895); teacher Anne Langton (1804-1893); and voyageur/writer Anna Brownell Jameson (1794-1860).

Moodie contributed articles to literary magazines on her hardships starting a life in Canada. Mary Ann McDonald, who also performed in the CBC drama A Far Cry From Home, portrayed her.

Wendy Springate portrayed Traill, Susanna's sister, who was a mother of nine, an ardent botanist and the author of several books about her adopted country.

Langton came to life through the skill of Elva Mai Hoover, who has performed in such television series as



Road to Avonlea, The Edison Twins, and Riverdale. Langton became a teacher of children in the developing communities as well as mastering every household task from bread baking to soap making, candle making, plastering, upholstering and sail making. Meg Hogarth, who has performed in theatres across Canada, portrayed Brownell Jameson. Jameson, a voyageur who married the wrong man, went on a two-month expedition, as well as others, and proceeded to publish Winter Studies and Summer Rambles upon her return to Europe in 1838.

McDonald's and Hoover's comical performances provided a refreshing release for the audience from a play packed with many historical facts, a release which created equilibrium. Hogarth's and Traill's performances took on a more serious and emotional tone, referring to their harsh lives.

The Bush Ladies was a great play for educational purposes, providing a great sea of knowledge about the women of our Canadian heritage. It will make you laugh in certain moments, but I found that after the intermission all comedy relief was killed off and we were like small children trying to be spoon-fed chopped liver.

The performances were very good, but I just found the play became dry and hard to swallow at the end.

Mission to Mars gives new outlook on creation of Earth

By JOËL D. HERRINGTON
Staff Writer

Mission to Mars gives a new perspective about Earth's development over the past 50 million years.

Neither God nor science caused the birth of our beautiful planet; it's a much more superior force.

On June 9, 2020, a NASA astronaut crew is sent to Cydonia, Mars, for research purposes. After the four-man crew is practically destroyed by a powerful, yet unknown, energy source on the planet, a rescue team is sent to investigate.

Captain Woody Blake and Mars specialist Jim McConnel, played by Tim Robbins and Gary Sinise, led the recovery team. Following a crash landing that cost the life of a crew member, the team finds one survivor, Luke Graham (Don Cheadle of Saturday Night Live). Incidentally, Graham has been a long-time friend and co-worker with Blake and McConnel. This adds to the story's plot and suspense.

From giant hurricanes to alien artifacts, Mission to Mars has a familiar storyline with great special effects. I say "familiar" because I've seen it before. A NASA assignment goes wrong, and then another crew is sent into space to salvage the remains. However, Mission to Mars was not a disappointment by any stretch of the imagination. It portrayed tragic scenes of love lost and captivating scenes of space exploration.

In addition, the movie proposes a unique version of how the human race and our planet were created. Director Brian DePalma's 113-minute movie unveils this theory during the mission's closing moments.

Unfortunately, this idea and philosophy may seem a little unclear for inattentive viewers.

Because of its confusion and familiarity, it's hard to give this movie a good rating. Good performances by Sinise, Robbins and Cheadle, along with wholesome moments of drama, convince me to give it three of five stars.

Niagara turned on by 'black blues'

By RYAN McLAUGHLIN
Staff Writer

The Carson Downey Band filled the Niagara College After Hours pub at the Welland campus with soulful blues on Oct. 25.

The college was a stop on the band's cross-Canada tour to promote its new album **All the Way**.

"This is the first time we've played colleges all summer. We'd like to get into them more," said Carson Downey, vocalist and guitarist for the band.

"We play a lot of big festivals," said Marlowe Smith, who plays bass for the band.

Hailing from North Preston, near Halifax, in Nova Scotia, this blues trio has been around since the early 1980s, but has only recently started touring the country.

"Where we come from . . . we are like the only black blues band on the east coast pretty well," said Downey, adding, "Back when we were starting out it was really hard to get places to play."

Things have changed for the band over the years, and with its recent CD release, getting a place to play isn't "hard" anymore.

"We play a lot of places, and I got to tell ya, what we do, we turn a lot of people on, we just wanna play right in your face," said Downey.

Carson Downey heats up the stage at After Hours, the college pub.
Photo by Ryan McLaughlin

Judging by the turnout at the pub, in people's faces they were.

After this tour finishes, the band plans to try to break into American market, and "then jump continents" and spread their combination of "rock, funk and blues" into Europe.

From Niagara, the band heads to Thunder Bay and then starts its trek to Vancouver, B.C.

SPORTS

Seneca defeats women's Knights 80-53

By AARON WILSON
Staff Writer

It was "just one of those games."

That seems the sentiment shared among coaches and players of the Niagara College women's basketball team.

Niagara lost 80-53 to Seneca College, of North York, in the team's second game of the year on Oct. 28.

Niagara came out flat in the first half and could not recover.

Kelly Lewis scored 12 points.

"We sort of came out flatfooted, and in the second half, we got frustrated. We beat ourselves," she says.

Lewis led the way in scoring, along with teammate Jana Douglas, who scored 12 points, playing in her first game.

One of Niagara's problems was trying to contain Tanesha McKenzie, who scored a game high of 27 points.

Tasha Warwick, who scored 10 points, says that at half time Niagara's goal was to not allow McKenzie to score more points.

Niagara allowed McKenzie only 10 points in the second half, but the deficit was too much.

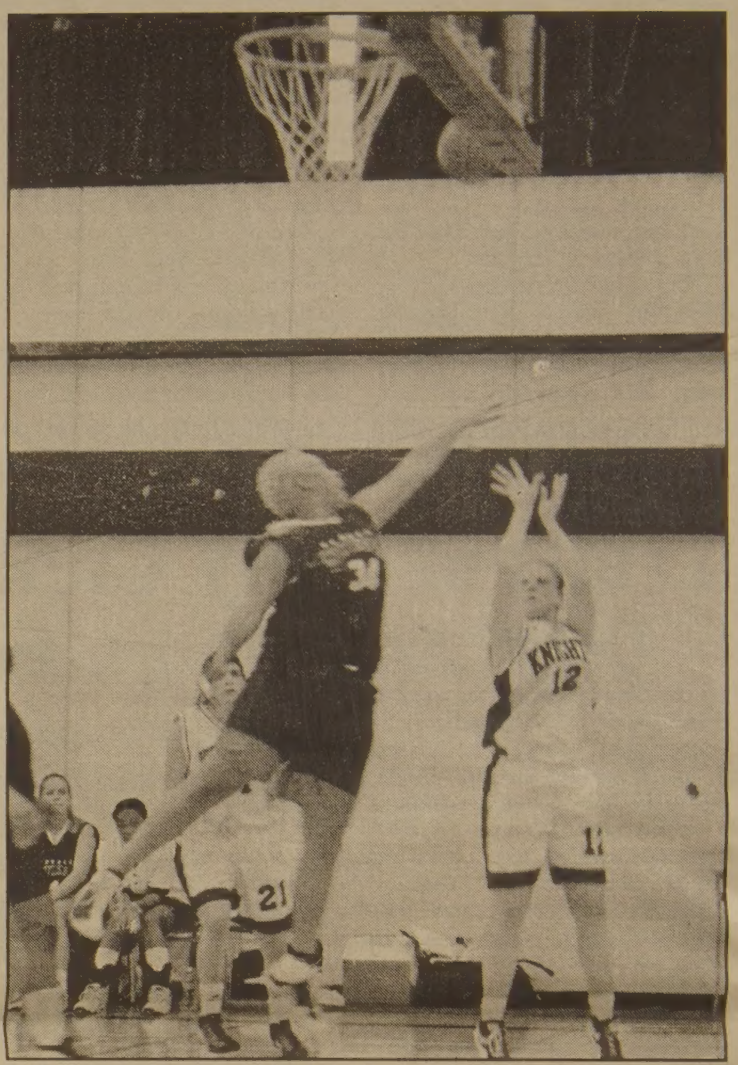
"Our shooting was off, and that hurt us," says Candace Oxford.

Niagara coach Georgie Groat says the team just had a bad game. "Hopefully, this is our one bad game, and we got it out of our system.

"It's still early in the year," says Groat, adding that, in practices, "we will be stressing endurance, fundamentals and getting plays down."

This loss puts Niagara's record at 1-2 winning on Nov. 3, beating St. Lawrence College 60-40.

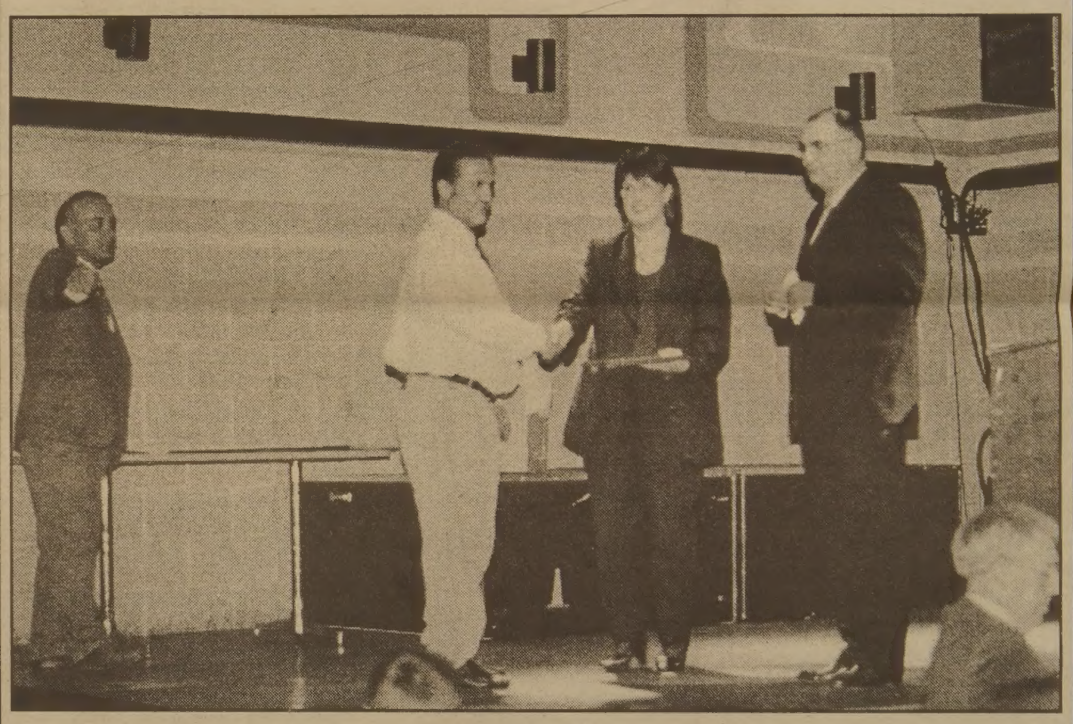
Niagara looks to even their record at George Brown College on Nov. 15.



Kelly Lewis, Niagara Knight starter, shoots for two points against the Seneca defence. Lewis scored 12 points, but his effort wasn't enough. Niagara lost 80-53.

Photo by Aaron Wilson

Six inducted into Knights' Hall of Fame



Donald Nadeau (second from left) is elected into the Niagara College Knights' Hall of Fame as an athlete. Nadeau was a goaltender on the Knights hockey team and was selected as freshman of the year. He was on the first Niagara team to win a hockey championship and won the Most Valuable Player of the playoffs that year. Nadeau attended the college from 1980 to 1982 and is a graduate of the General Arts and Science program. Nadeau and five others were inducted on Oct. 21 at the After Hours pub. Presenting Nadeau with his plaque is Fred Bassl (far right), who was inducted as a builder. Ray Sarkis (far left), co-ordinator of the college's athletic department, organized the event, which saw two builders and four athletes inducted.

Photo by Aaron Wilson

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On behalf of the second-year Journalism-Print students

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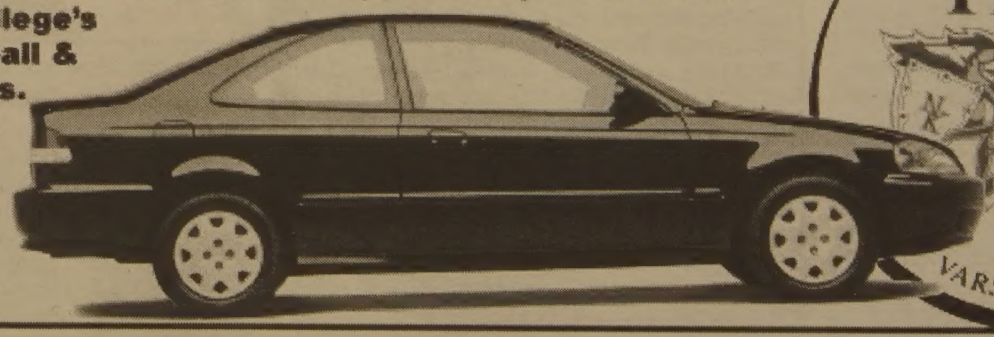

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20 Questions

ESL's Klassen has faced many challenges

By NAUMAN FAROOQ
Staff Writer

Joanne Klassen, 25, of Niagara-on-the-Lake, is an English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher in Niagara College's International Education and Development department. She has been at this job since September 1998. She said she has faced many challenges, including the challenge of 20 questions by the *Niagara News*.

Q. Name your favourite restaurant.

A. Mandarin (Chinese buffet).

Q. Name six of your favourite songs.

A. *I Will Remember You* by Sarah McLachlan, *With or Without You* by U2, *Red, Red Wine* by UB40, *Bohemian Rhapsody* by Queen, *That's the Way It Is* by Celine Dion, *Arms Wide Open* by Creed.

Q. What is your favourite quote or line from a song?

A. "Don't let your life pass you by, weep not for the memories" from *I Will Remember You* by Sarah McLachlan.

Q. What was/is your favourite children's program?

A. Polkadot Door.

Q. Who or what always makes you laugh?

A. Woo Suk Choi (an ESL student). He always makes me laugh.

Q. What was the worst job you ever had?

A. Greenhouse work, that is, the heat, the dirt, the sweat. I slept as soon as I got home every day. It ruined my social life.

Q. What was the bravest thing you ever did?

A. I took a group of ESL students whitewater rafting on the Ottawa River.

JOANNE KLASSEN

Q. What is your greatest achievement?

A. I've had the privilege of helping people succeed at learning a second language.

Q. What is the nicest thing anyone has ever done for you?

A. My mother occasionally cleans my house, does my laundry and makes meals for me.

Q. What is the most embarrassing moment of your life?

A. I accidentally locked a student in the language lab. Beware ESL students! It might happen to you!

Q. Who is your idol or hero?

A. My father. He would do anything for another human being.

Q. What is your everyday car?

A. 4X4 pick-up truck.

Q. If you were a car, what car would you be?

A. A bright yellow VW Beetle.

Q. What car — cost no object — would you like to drive for the next 12 months?

A. An SUV.

Q. What did you want to be when you grew up?

A. A nurse, like my mother.

Q. When did you decide to go into your current career?

A. During my first year of university in nursing.

Q. What was your New Year's resolution?

A. I forget. I guess it wasn't too important.

Q. If you could have dinner with anyone, past or present, who would it be and why?

A. Terry Fox. I'd like to have his strength and perseverance, as a fellow cancer survivor.

Q. If you could go for a vacation anywhere, where would you go?

A. I have a fascination with Greece. I don't know why, maybe the fabulous food.

Q. What is the meaning of life?

A. To live each day as if it were your last. Make a difference in someone else's life today.

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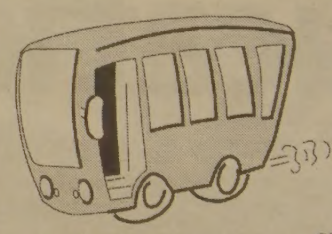
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CAMPUS COVERAGE

Instructor gets award for academic standing

By KEVIN HARTFORD
Staff Writer

Hard work is paying off, especially if you're Marsha Baddeley, Niagara College's Systems and Database Management instructor.

Baddeley, of Scarborough, was awarded the Governor-General's Academic Medal at Niagara College's fall convocation ceremony held at the Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake on Oct. 20.

Baddeley graduated from the Computer Programmer/Analyst program with a 95 per cent academic average.

'I wasn't gearing up for any awards or scholarships, (but) I ended up getting good marks and I got the award. I'm actually a little shy about it, to be honest.'

"It was a complete surprise," says Baddeley. "I didn't even know there was such an award."

Baddeley, who will admit to being "thirtysomething," says she needed, as a mature student, to feel as if she was doing well in her program, and that her money and time were being put to good use.

"I wasn't gearing up for any awards or scholarships, (but) I ended up getting good marks and I got the award. I'm actually a little shy about it, to be honest."

Baddeley says accepting the award in front of a crowd that included 200 Niagara College students was nerve-wracking, but "actually a surprise. With this program, you work really hard — there's a lot to it — and I think it was a nice experience to get the award after all that hard work."

Baddeley is an instructor in the Systems and Database Management program. She teaches students how to construct and design databases and how to apply that knowledge in the working world.

Marsha Baddeley, Systems and Database Management instructor, is in her office at the Welland campus.

Photo by Kevin Hartford

"I like how useful it is," says Baddeley. "I feel like I help people by using technology to make their lives, hopefully, easier or more productive."

Prior to her work at Niagara College, Baddeley worked for seven years as a counsellor/therapist at Niagara University in Lewiston, N.Y. "My main focus was working with people who had eating disorders and addictions (and) people who suffered from trauma."

'I wouldn't mind plumbing, then doing a crafty thing, or cooking a meal and then doing drywalling. I like all that. I like to work all the time.'

Baddeley says she "quite liked" counselling because she was working to "help people make their lives easier, simpler and qualitatively better through how they changed the way they lived their lives. I really enjoyed that position, but I couldn't see myself doing it forever."

Baddeley says she was looking through Niagara College's course catalogue and the Computer Programmer/Analyst program caught her eye. "I knew that I wasn't going to be in counselling forever, and I felt that, if I was going to change careers, I needed more education. I just happened upon this program. Literally, I was just looking through the catalogue and it interested me. I thought I'd give it a try for at least a term, see if I liked it, and I did."

'Every bit of education I've done so far has been worth the time and money. I've never regretted any of it.'

Baddeley has a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Western Ontario in London and a master of science in education from Niagara University. Baddeley says all of her schooling was worth it. "Every bit of education I've done so far has been worth the time and money. I've never regretted any of it."

Baddeley says her long-term career goals include to "always enjoy what I'm doing. I'm not really aiming for positions or money or anything like that. As long as I'm happy, I'm in the right place."

She says her dream job would be to "take over Martha Stewart's business. I'd be Martha Stewart, Part Two. I like doing things. I like puttering around. I wouldn't mind plumbing, then doing a crafty thing, or cooking a meal and then doing drywalling. I like all that. I like to work all the time."

Baddeley says her goal in life is to "just live as simply and happily as possible and to do things that I think are meaningful. I don't have any big plans. I feel that if what I'm doing provides meaning and helps other people, then I've lived a good life."

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Students can do more than research on library's new computers

By TARA FORD
Staff Writer

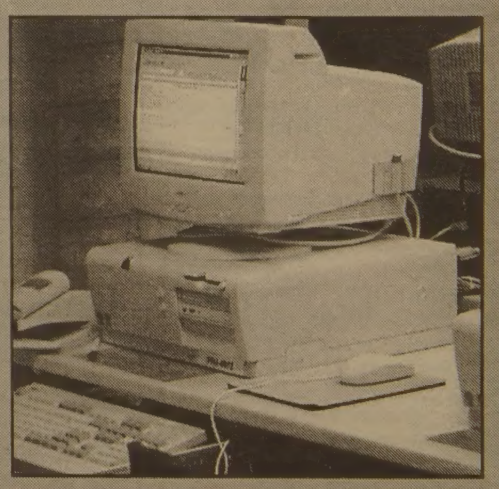
New computers are up and running at the Niagara College Learning Resource Centre (LRC) at the Welland campus.

The computers initially came from a lab in the Lundy building. They were in L5 and over the summer they were transferred into the LRC.

The decision to put the computers in the library was made by Trish Labonte, head librarian, and Barry Sharpe, dean of the Foundation Studies Division. The computers are shared by the English faculty and the library.

Sue Bartlett, library technician, said this arrangement "accommodates everyone."

Bartlett said students often asked the librarians if students could use the research computers to do their work. The students had to be denied because of the small number of research computers.



Now the students may use the new computers to do projects, papers and anything else they need to.

The computers were in the library in the summer, but were not installed until Oct. 20.

CAMPUS COVERAGE

'Inconsistent' schedule affects students

By COLLIN COULIS
Staff Writer

Second-year students in the Police Foundations program have had to adjust to mid-semester timetable changes.

"It's not the fact that the changes are that drastic. We're not here until eight at night or anything," says St. Catharines resident Brandon Berry, 21. "When you're trying to get used to one schedule and everything's getting flipped around on you, sometimes you end up missing class because you don't have the right timetable."

He says the schedule has changed a number of times because large classes have been split in two and one teacher is on temporary leave from the program for health reasons, so a new teacher has had to take over her classes.

Berry says besides switching times, several classes have changed locations. He says no one really deserves the blame for this situation.

"So there's no confusion, our program co-ordinator and all our teachers are on our side totally 100 per cent."

"Our own co-ordinator is getting a little frustrated at the fact that we had to have our timetables changed so many times," says Jeremy Staples, 21, of St. Catharines. "Everyone's trying to do what they can — teachers are willing to switch their own hours, switch a classroom here to there to accommodate us."

Staples says the changes haven't had "a big effect" on him.

"I try and keep on top of what the timetable is. There are other people who work and they can't be here to find out about schedule changes."

Matt Hodges, 20, says the changes have been "incredibly frustrating" for him because he works part time and cannot always attend class. "All of a sudden you show up to school for a class and class isn't there any more.

"I pay a lot of money to come here and get a good education. Things are just really inconsistent for us," says Hodges.

Staples and Berry say that policing is "a very disciplined but unpredictable profession" and that the mid-semester changes are preparing them for the unpredictable life of a police officer.

"As far as class is concerned, we're just going to have to roll with the punches," says Staples.

Berry says, "If you really care about what you're doing in your class it shouldn't affect you. It might affect people who really don't have their act together and don't want to excel in their class."

Assistance available for graduates without a job

By LAURA T. RICCIUTO
Staff Writer

It's all about finding the right fit.

With the assistance of the Ventures Division at Niagara College, matching the right graduate with the right employer just got easier.

Preparing students for success after graduation in employment and co-operative education services was the focus of the presentation made to the college's Board of Governors on Oct. 12.

Improvement procedures listed on the agenda submitted to the board by Martha Casson, vice-president enterprise and students services, include the following:

- changing the name of Employment Service offices at all three campuses to "The Job Centre"
- establishing regular communication with students
- establishing an Employment Services Advisory Committee
- establishing Student Advisory Groups at each campus
- enhancing graduate services.

Topping the new image effort, in an attempt to strengthen the centre's link with students, a name change is targeted for mid-November. It will officially become The Job Centre once all signage is received.

"The Job Centre says it all," explains Bea Clark, director Ventures Division.

Clark says the name was changed because "the students and the public were confused" about what the facility does.

Addressing the second goal, she said regular communication with students is considered to be once a week. This contact can vary from notification of job postings or updates to résumés. Clark says the use of e-mail "ensures good communication with students." Each student at Niagara College has a free e-mail account during the student's academic terms.

Getting the students' views on co-op classes will be the job of two representatives for each program in the student advisory group. Clark says this will involve students more as they will be meeting in "their own areas of school, expanding to the cafeteria and SAC (Student Administrative Council) offices."

Just as programs at the college have advisory committees to keep curriculum to industry standards, the "formal advisory committee" has "a good cross-section," states Clark. The committee consists of two or three program co-ordinators, Ventures staff, school board members, and employers of graduates and agency representatives.

"We're looking for feedback on an on-going basis with those in contact with students," says Clark.

Graduates can expect additional improvements in the resources made available to them during their job search.

The centre has contacted about 1,500 graduates to see if they are employed in the area of their studies. Graduates still looking for work will be invited to attend an "intensive job-search seminar."

To assist graduates with their search, the college has hired two part-time advisers.

They are available to help students find job postings and job-related Web sites and link them to proper agencies.

"We give them a boost in the job search," says Clark, adding, "It's frustrating when you can't find work. Some need motivation."

Bomb threat at Niagara called in from on-campus phone

At about 10:10 a.m., on Wednesday, Nov. 8, the Niagara College switchboard operator received a call that originated from the pay telephone in the Black Walnut building.

Rick Demers, manager of health, safety and security, says the male caller said that a bomb was somewhere on the Welland campus. Immediately after receiving the call, the college's bomb threat procedure was enacted and a thorough search of all buildings was conducted. Nothing suspicious was found.

The Niagara Regional Police are continuing with their investigation and Crimestoppers of Niagara has been contacted to provide assistance. Anyone with any information on this matter should contact Crimestoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

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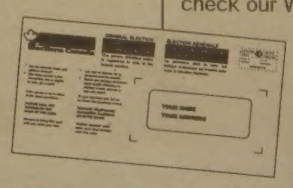

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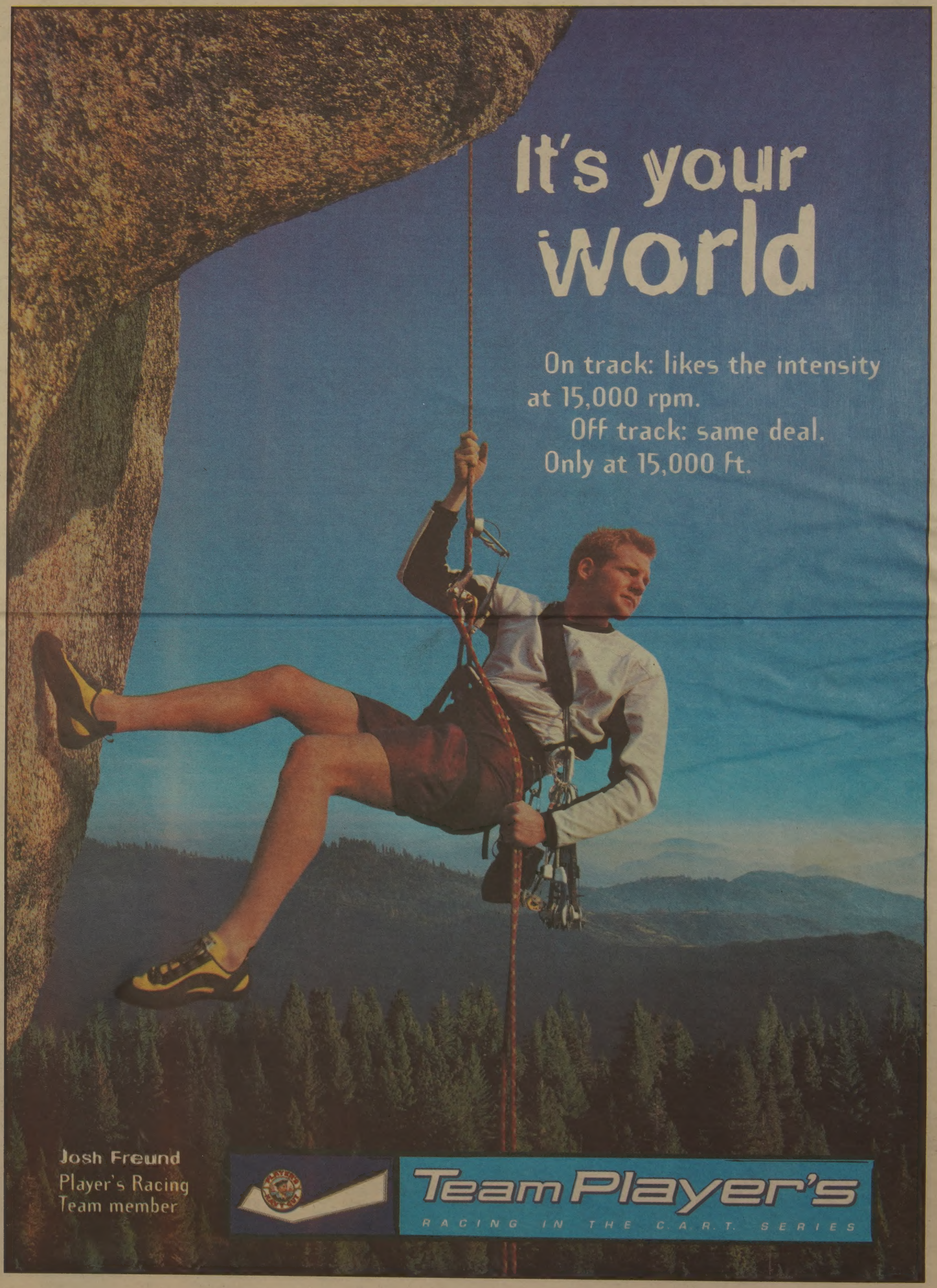
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